

The First Brigade  
**DIPLOMAT AND WARRIOR**

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October 1998

1st Brigade (Separate) Viet Nam



101st Airborne Division



**A TROOPER OF THE  
1ST BRIGADE (SEPARATE)  
101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION**

**\$5.00**

## THE DIPLOMAT AND WARRIOR

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## EDITORIAL NOTES

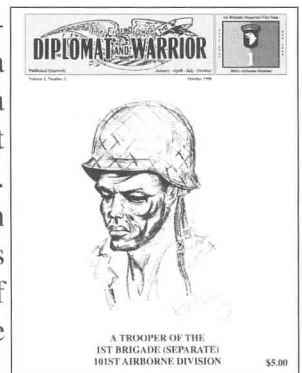
The three goals for 1st Brigade projects, mentioned in the July issue, of THE DIPLOMAT AND WARRIOR still remain viable. The magazine will continue to be published quarterly. The book to record a comprehensive history of the brigade will be published. Organized gatherings at meetings of associations of Screaming Eagle veterans appears questionable. The Thursday luncheon at the Omaha reunion was not a resounding success. The luncheon was attended by a fraction of the 1st Brigade veterans attending the reunion (see page 22). If



*Ivan Worrell with Brigadier General Willard Pearson in Phan Rang in 1966.*

I get enough positive input I will arrange for a 1st Brigade (Separate) dinner on Thursday February 4th in Kissimmee / Orlando, Florida. Please write, call, FAX or send e-mail to me to let me know of your interest.

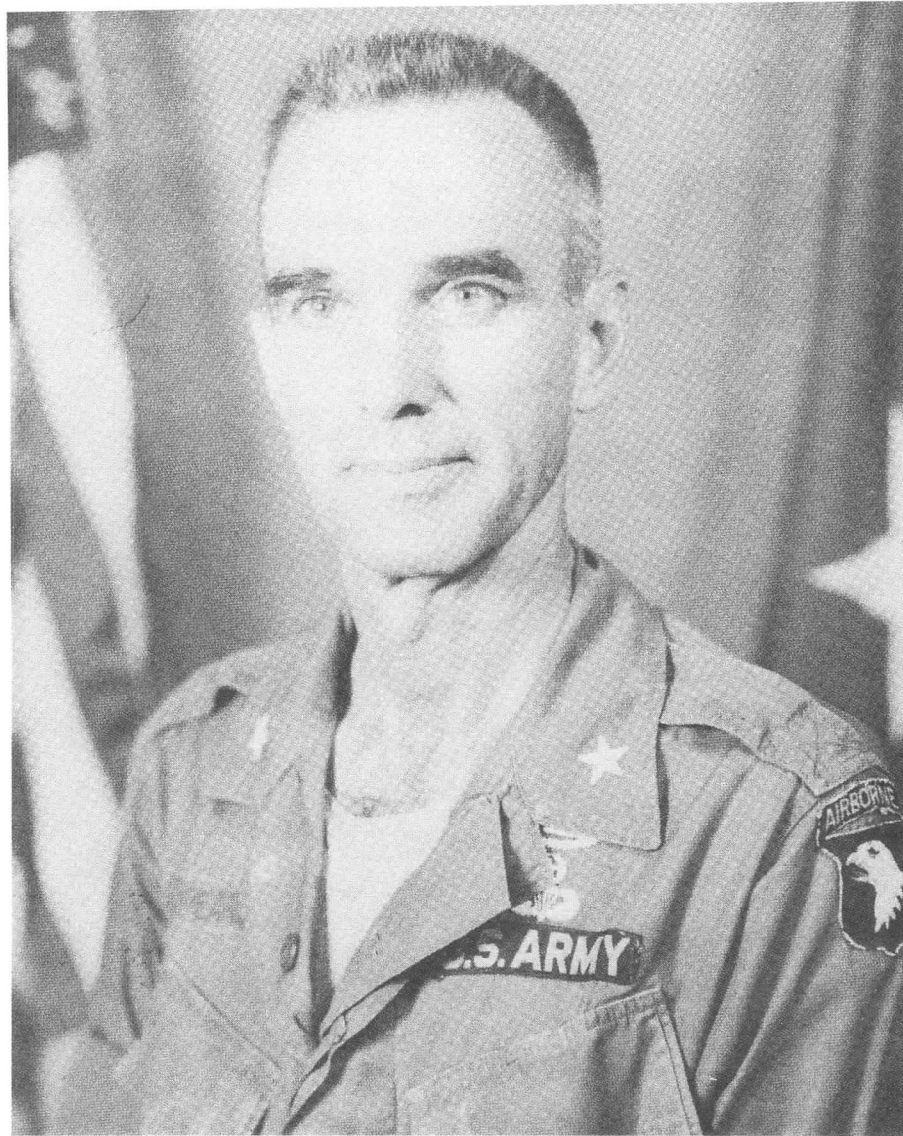
The cover of THE DIPLOMAT AND WARRIOR is a sketch from the Apodaca Collection (see inside front cover of the July 1998 issue. **Jim Apodaca** loaned me an album of photos and sketches and I am in the process of scanning them for future use before returning them to him.



The contents of this issue will give you some idea of the interest that many individuals have shown in THE DIPLOMAT AND WARRIOR. Every 1st Brigade (Separate) veteran is urged to submit photos and stories for the purpose of letting other 1st Brigade veterans know the details of combat actions and human interest stories and photos.

My assessment of the break even point for the magazine is 500 subscribers. About 300 subscribers are now on the mailing list. Each 1st Brigade veteran can help to make this historical project a success by encouraging your 1st Brigade friends to subscribe or by sending names and addresses of other 1st Brigade veterans so they may have the opportunity to subscribe and participate in the content of the magazine and in writing the HISTORY OF THE 1ST BRIGADE (SEPARATE). All your help will be appreciated.

*continued on inside back cover*



Although scientists have invented weapons that have revolutionized warfare, they have not been able to replace you, the soldier on the ground, who remains the key to victory. All would be but an empty shell were it not for your “fighting heart.” Aggressive, defiant, physically fit, eager to fight, and with pride in your profession, you are unbeatable — you are a superb fighter in the finest traditions of America’s greatest warriors—and a diplomat as well.

**WILLARD PEARSON**

**Brig. Gen., U.S.A., Commanding**

JANUARY 29, 1966

**(VIETNAM ODYSSEY)**



### CAPTIAN RON BROWN AWARDED DSC

(See center fold for story)

TUY HOA, VIETNAM (101ST-IO) -- Captain Walter R. Brown receives the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism from General Creighton W. Abrams, Vice Chief of Staff of the Army. Capt. Brown, of Chattanooga, Tenn., was the commanding officer of Company "A", 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry during the battle of Tuo Morong last June. Brigadier General Willard Pearson, Commanding General of the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division observes the presentation.

(L58-11) US Army Photo by Sp/4 Oddvar Breiland



### QUINTON P. SUNDAY



The Association also suffered another tragic loss with the death of Lt. Col. Quinton P. Sunday at Ft. Sheridan, Ill. Col. Sunday served many tours with the 101 and his last assignment was Commanding Officer, 101st Support Command, Vietnam. He was Airborne All the Way, having served with the 82nd in Normandy, Korea, saw service with the 11th, 508th, and Special Forces. He was buried in Eufaula, Okla. Honorary pallbearers with Maj. Gen. S. H. Matheon, Maj. William D. Russell, and CSM Paul D. Huff. Chaplain Denny Williams officiated at the funeral which was conducted with full military honors. He is survived by his wife, Beth, and two sons, William and Robert, who may be contacted at 327 S. Main, Eufaula, Okla.

(The Screaming Eagle May - June 1969)



### MAJOR HERBERT E. GARCIA AWARDED SILVER STAR

*KHANG DUONG, Viet Nam – Army Vice Chief of Staff, General Creighton W. Abrams, pins the Silver Star on Major Herbert E. Garcia, Oakland, Calif., Executive Officer of the 1st Battalion, 327th (Airborne) Infantry. (Brigadier General S. H. Matheson [Left] Commanding General of the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division observes.) The 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division officer was awarded the nation's third highest honor for gallantry in action last September at Tuy Hoa.*

(67-205-14) US Army Photo by ILT Arthur D. Barnett, 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div IO, APO 96347, Tel Strike 109.



*At the May 1998 reunion of the veterans of the 1st Brigade (Separate) at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, Herb Garcia talked to a soldier of the ALWAYS FIRST BRIGADE near Brigade Headquarters.*





## SILVER STAR FOR LTC. EMERSON

For gallantry in action: Lieutenant Colonel Emerson distinguished himself on 6 February 1966 while serving as commander of a battalion which was engaged with a well trained and heavily armed Viet Cong battalion near Canh Tinh, Republic of Vietnam. After directing the tactical deployment of his elements, Lieutenant Colonel Emerson became airborne in a H-13, a light observation helicopter, to continue the effective control of his maneuvering assault troops. While performing this courageous act, Lieutenant Colonel Emerson's aircraft received intense automatic weapons and small arms ground fire. Despite this, he remained over the battle area, pinpointed hostile emplacements, and analyzed the developing situations. Late that afternoon, the Viet Cong launched a heavy assault on the friendly force. At this time, Lieutenant Colonel Emerson landed his aircraft on the fire swept battlefield and personally directed the fire of his troops while repeatedly exposed to intense hostile fire. During the course of action, Lieutenant Colonel Emerson, with complete disregard for his personal safety, further exposed himself to Viet Cong fire while directing the medical evacuation of wounded. His out-



standing devotion to duty, personal bravery, and leadership contributed immeasurably to the overwhelming defeat of the Viet Cong in that area. Lieutenant Colonel Emerson's gallant actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

*TUY HOA, VIETNAM (101ST-IO) – Lieutenant Colonel Henry E. Emerson (R) Commanding Officer of the 2d Battalion 502d Infantry is presented the Silver Star (1st Oak Leaf Cluster) by Chief of Staff of the Army General Harold K. Johnson. Observing the presentation is Brigadier General Willard Pearson Commanding General of the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. The award was presented at the 1st Brigade, forward command post near Tuy Hoa, Republic of Vietnam. (Citation attached)*

US Army Photo by Sp/4 Oddvar Breiland



## PRESS RELEASE

from U.S. Army Vietnam The Reporter, dtd 2 Oct 65

GI LAUDS OFFICER HERO, by JO1 Ray Mahon, S&S Staff Writer, NHA TRANG, Vietnam – "If he doesn't get the Medal of Honor, I don't know who should," PFC George Imes said from his hospital bed.

Imes was speaking of a major who led a platoon charge up a hill during the 101st Airborne Paratroopers' decisive victory over the Viet Cong near An Khe this month.

"The major was leading the way with just a .45 in his hand. Heavy machine gun fire from the hill hit him and he fell, but he got up and continued on until he was hit again and killed," Imes said.

"The 3d Platoon of B Co., who were following him apparently got mad when they saw what happened to the major. They charged the hill, screaming all the way up, and forced the Viet Cong to retreat," he said.

Imes, of Philadelphia, is in the 8th Field Hospital here, recovering from a minor shrapnel wound received during the weekend encounter.

He was among relief troops who went into the area Sunday to assist the outnumbered paratroopers in the fighting.

Imes said many paratroopers back at the loading zone "began to cry" when reports of the fighting came in.

"The guys were crying because they wanted to get in there and help. One of our cooks did get in. He took off and was able to hitch a ride by helicopter."

In the bed next to Imes was SP4 Roy Hoffman, 20, of Punxsutawney, PA, one of the first paratrooper casualties in the battle.

He was elated over his unit's performance against the Viet Cong. "They said we were only living on the reputation earned by the 101st during World War II. We proved to them we weren't," Hoffman said.

"Up until that time our morale was pretty low. We hadn't had any action. Anywhere we seemed to go the Viet Cong had just left. Now our morale is sky high."

Hoffman is leaving in two weeks for Valley Forge Hospital, PA. A machine gun bullet shattered a bone in his leg.

Imes hopes to be back with his unit in a few weeks.

Editor's Note: This story must be about Major Herbert J. Dexter who was Killed In Action on September 18, 1965. See page 13 of the July issue of the DIPLOMAT AND WARRIOR.



# 1st BRIGADE PRINT ON SALE NOW!



This print is the creation of artist **Thomas Cain**. He produced it especially for the 6th Bi-Annual Reunion of the 1st Brigade (Separate), 101st Airborne Division, Viet Nam July 1965 - January 1968. The reunion was held the 21st - 24th of May 1998 in Clarksville, Tennessee and Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

This 18 inch high by 10 inch wide print may be obtained from the reunion committee chairman responsible for sale of the print, **Dayton Herrington**.

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## 6TH BI-ANNUAL REUNION

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**Specialist Four  
Dale E. Wayrynen, MOH**

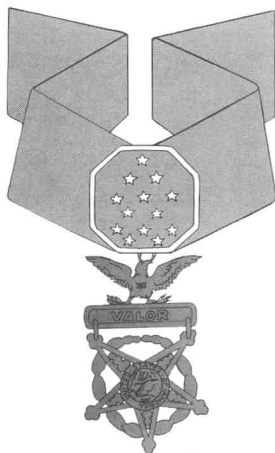
HEADQUARTERS  
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
WASHINGTON, DC, 27 October 1969

**AWARD OF THE MEDAL OF HONOR**



By direction of the President, under the Joint Resolution of Congress approved 12 July 1862 (amended by act of 3 March 1863, act of 9 July 1918 and act of 25 July 1963), the Medal of Honor for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty is awarded posthumously by the Department of the Army in the name of Congress to:

Specialist Four Dale E. Wayrynen, 472-54-2836 (RA17721421), United States Army, who distinguished himself with Company B, 2d Battalion, 502d Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, during combat operations on 18 May 1967 near Duc Pho, Quang Ngai Province, Republic of Vietnam. His platoon was assisting in the night evacuation of the wounded from an earlier enemy contact when the lead man of the unit met face to face with a Viet Cong soldier. The American's shouted warning also alerted the enemy who immediately swept the area with automatic weapons fire from a strongly built bunker close to the trail and threw hand grenades from another nearby fortified position. Almost immediately, the lead man was wounded and knocked from his feet. Specialist Wayrynen, the second man in the formation, leaped beyond his fallen comrade to kill another enemy soldier who appeared on the trail, and he dragged his injured companion back to where the point squad had taken cover. Suddenly, a live enemy grenade landed in the center of the tightly grouped men. Specialist Wayrynen, quickly assessing the danger to the entire squad as well as to his platoon leader who was nearby, shouted a warning, pushed one soldier out of the way, and threw himself on the grenade at the moment it exploded. He was mortally wounded. His deep and abiding concern for his fellow soldiers was significantly reflected in his supreme and courageous act that preserved the lives of his comrades. Specialist Wayrynen's heroic actions are in keeping with the highest traditions of the service, and they reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.





## APPROVED VALOR AWARDS

| <i>NAME</i>          | <i>RANK</i> | <i>SERIAL<br/>NUMBER</i> | <i>UNIT</i> | <i>AWARD</i> | <i>PERIOD</i> | <i>GENERAL ORDER</i> |
|----------------------|-------------|--------------------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|----------------------|
| KOONTZ, Lawrence V.  | SSG         | RA13435250               | HHC/2/502   | BS"V"        | 2Sep65        | GO19561/16Dec65      |
| LISECKI, Anthony     | SSG         | RA13523695               | B/2/502     | SM           | 11Sep65       | GO16/9Jan66          |
| MARTIN, Travis F.    | SSG         | RA18355024               | A/1/327     | ARCOM"V"     | 10Sep65       | GO72/10Feb66         |
| McQUEEN, Milton      | SSG         | RA12389554               | A/1/327     | BS"V"        | 28Oct65       | GO23/14Jan66         |
| RISLEY, Audrey L.    | SSG         | RA17369106               | C/2/327     | SM           | 28Sep65       | GO46/19Dec65         |
| SIMPSON, Hurley D.   | SSG         | RA17278770               | C/2/327     | ARCOM"V"     | 29Jan66       | GO1360/1Mar66        |
| TAYLOR, Ronald E.    | SSG         | RA14577181               | C/2/502     | SS (Post)    | 18Sep65       | GO1539/9Nov65        |
| VALASQUEZ, Pete A.   | SSG         | RA19589859               | B/2/502     | SS           | 12 Dec65      | GO639/1Feb66         |
| BOARLAND, Michael E. | Sgt         | RA19604413               | C/2/502     | BS"V"        | 18Sep65       | GO2143/27Dec65       |
| BOWMAN, John D.      | Sgt         | RA13804692               | A/2/502     | BS"V"        | 18Sep65       | GO2048/20Dec65       |
| CALLAHAN, Robert     | Sgt         | RA12534923               | B/2/327     | ARCOM"V"     | 29Jan66       | GO1405/3Mar66        |
| CUNNINGHAM, Stephen  | Sgt         | RA14827383               | B/2/502     | ARCOM"V"     | 18Sep65       | GO433/24Jan66        |
| D 'AMOUR, Robert     | Sgt         | RA11290599               | A/2/327     | ARCOM"V"     | 25Jan66       | GO1395/4Mar66        |
| EVANS, Thomas S.     | Sgt         | RA25292159               | A/2/502     | BS"V"        | 18Sep65       | GO2040/20Dec65       |
| GREER, Kenneth W.    | SP4         | RA15695892               | C/2/502     | BS"V"        | 18Sep65       | Unk/Unk              |
| GREER, Homer J.      | SP5         | RA19617300               | HHC/1/327   | ARCOM"V"     | 12-14Dec65    | GO1415/3Mar66        |
| GUNTER, James C.     | SP5         | RA13453011               | HHC/2/502   | BS"V"        | 18Sep65       | GO246/26Jan66        |
| HAMILTON, Cleveland  | Sgt         | RA53369112               | A/2/327     | BS"V"        | 24Jan66       | GO1384/8Mar66        |
| HOLBROCK, Franklin   | Sgt         | RA26811612               | HHC/1/327   | ARCOM"V"     | 12-14Dec65    | GO1369/1Mar66        |
| JACKSON, Lawrence    | Sgt         | RA13659879               | C/2/502     | BS"V"        | 2Sep65        | GO1042/16Oct65       |
| JOHNSON, Joseph A.   | Sgt         | RA24922203               | HHC/1/327   | SM           | 20Sep65       | GO74/10Feb66         |
| LEWIS, James H.      | Sgt         | RA13616189               | A/2/502     | BS"V" (Post) | 9Dec65        | GO42/17Jan66         |
| LOPEZ, Johnnie M.    | Sgt         | RA24258674               | HHC/1/327   | BS"V"        | 12Oct65       | GO31/14Jan66         |
| REDDIG, Charles      | Sgt         | RA14789705               | C/2/327     | SS           | 23Jan66       | GO1331/1Mar66        |
| RICHARDSON, Franklin | Sgt         | RA16623466               | C/2/502     | ARCOM"V"     | 18Sep65       | GO418/22Jan66        |
| SAIT, Bobbie R.      | Sgt         | RA13477245               | HHC/1/327   | BS"V"        | 28Oct65       | GO32/14Jan66         |
| SMITH, Allen         | Sgt         | RA14786667               | B/1/327     | BS"V"        | 15Jun65       | Unk/Unk              |
| SMITH, Franklin W.   | Sgt         | RA52511204               | A/1/327     | BS"V"        | 28Oct65       | GO24/14Jan66         |
| THOMAS, William E.   | SP5         | RA51910066               | HHC/2/502   | BS"V"        | 18-19Sep65    | GO341/20Jan66        |
| WEBB, Donald         | Sgt         | RA15692258               | B/2/502     | SM           | 11Sep65       | Unk/9Jan66           |
| WHITING, Earnest     | Sgt         | RA22914692               | B/2/327     | BS"V"        | 24Jan66       | GO1390/1Mar66        |

## 20 Big Operations, 2,141 Miles

# 1st Brigade Continues Vietnam Odyssey

DUC PHO, Vietnam (101 Abn.-IO) -- Since the 101st Airborne's 1st Brigade arrived in Vietnam two years ago, it has made 25 tactical displacements, traveling 2,141 miles conducting 20 major operations.

They have occupied their base camp at Phan Rang 21 days in two years. This has been--and is--their tale of Odyssey. They

are the "Nomads of Vietnam."

The Screaming Eagles of the 1st Brigade marked their first anniversary in Vietnam, June 29, 1966, in Phu Yen province during Operation John Paul Jones. In less than six weeks, the brigade accounted for 209 enemy kills, captured 56 weapons, large amounts of ammunition, equipment, and secured Vung Ro Bay and Highway 1 north to Tuy Hoa.

Labor Day, 1966, marked the beginning of Operation Seward as the brigade launched a dual

mission: protect the rice harvest in Tuy Hoa, Tuy An and Hieu Xong valley and engage the enemy.

The area of operation had been a lucrative source for the Viet Cong in 1965 when only 45 percent of the rice yield was harvested by the Vietnamese farmers. Arrival of the Screaming Eagles produced a dramatic setback to the Communists.

Civilians harvested more than 17,000 tons, or 89 percent of the estimated yield. And as the

South Vietnamese worked in safety, the paratroopers accounted for 239 enemy kills, 80 enemy weapons and seized 40.5 tons of rice in VC caches.

After a five-day break, the brigade launched Geronimo I on Halloween with tactics appropriate to the occasion: clandestine entry into the battle area employing semi-guerrilla tactics.

The strategy resulted in a mauling of the 5th Battalion, 95th NVA Regiment. Concurrent with ground action, Geronimo I demonstrated the successful use of psychological methods which led 36 NVA to surrender.

Nineteen days before Christmas, 1966, the "Nomads of Vietnam" moved northwest from Tuy Hoa Valley to Kontum province near the Cambodian border. The deployment established a record as the brigade, moving by C-130 aircraft, completed the displacement in 48 hours demonstrating the flexibility of the brigade to respond to any area with maximum force.

Operation Pickett was initi-

ated. During the Christmas-New Year's truce, the brigade maintained defensive operations and conducted airborne refresher training.

In late January, 1967, the Screaming Eagles of Vietnam returned to Phan Rang in preparation for Operation Farragut. Brigadier General S. H. Matheson, former assistant division commander at Ft. Campbell, assumed command from Brigadier General Willard Pearson, and the troopers moved out again.

Operation Farragut was marked by two significant accomplishments. First, the highway linking Phan Rang to Song Mao was opened. Second, by close cooperation and coordination with South Vietnamese military and civilian authorities, an extremely successful psychological operation geared to the "Chieu Hoi-Open Arms" program was executed, 475 Viet Cong deserted the Communist ranks. One-hundred fifteen VC chose to fight and failed.

Following Farragut, the brigade moved again, this time by

(Continued on Page 37)

(Continued on page 9)



**THE CONSTANT SEARCH--**Paratroopers of the 101st's 1st Brigade, part of Task Force Oregon near Duc Pho, start out on a long day of search and destroy, a type of operation that has characterized much of their two-year stay in Vietnam.

Clarksville Leaf-Chronicle  
August 18, 1967

(Continued from page 8)

|   |  |   |  |  |   |
|---|--|---|--|--|---|
| <p>(Continued from Page 1)</p> <p>land and air, initiating Operation Summerall near Khanh Duong in the Central Highlands. Fifty per cent of the brigade's personnel moved by C-7A and C-130 aircraft and the rest by convoy along Highway 21. This dramatic move not only secured the highway, but also demonstrated to the civilian population that Allied Military Forces --not VC--controlled the area. Paratroopers accounted for 72 enemy kills, captured 57 weapons, 21 tons of rice and large amounts of ammunition and medical supplies. In conjunction with combat operations, brigade civil af-</p> | <p>fairs teams conducted extensive MEDCAP programs in the Montagnard villages, constructed fish ponds to initiate protein supplement into the villagers' diet, and inoculated livestock against diseases which had plagued their herds. While at Khahn Duong, the brigade received a mission to move north--an operation taking it within 175 miles of North Vietnam. Moving by air and sea, the Screaming Eagles joined the 196th Light Infantry Brigade and 3d Brigade, 25th Infantry Division in Task Force Oregon.</p> | <p>Selecting names of significant battles the 101st Airborne fought in World War II, Operations Malheur I was initiated May 11 in an area the Communists had controlled since 1954. With two airborne battalions forcing the Viet Cong into a third occupying blocking positions, Malheur I produced the highest body count since Operation Hawthorne. More than 390 enemy were killed in 14 days of fighting. When Malheur I terminated June 7, the Screaming Eagles had killed 399 enemy, captured 157 individual weapons (11 crew-</p> | <p>served), 78 tons of rice and more than 40 tons of salt. The next day, the brigade launched Operation Malheur II which included plans for the largest civil affairs operation in the history of Quang Ngai province. In addition to fighting a stubborn, well-equipped enemy, the airborne infantryment were to relocate the population of the Song Ve River valley to RVN refugee centers at Nghia Hanh and Mo Duc. Livestock in the valley also was to be herded to the evacuated families in the refugee centers.</p> | <p>Utilizing psychological operations teams to blanket the valley with leaflet and loudspeaker appeals, the residents were informed the paratroopers were coming and how to prepare for the evacuation. The preparatory phase was successful. At each village, the residents were packed and ready. Chinook helicopters lifted them and their belongings to Nghia Hanh. As each village was evacuated, the Screaming Eagles rounded up the livestock and began herding them north to meet their owners. On June 22, the valley reloca-</p> | <p>tion and cattle drive were completed. More than 5,000 villagers and 1,196 head of cattle and water buffalo had been moved from VC control to safety. Since arriving in Vietnam, 1st Brigade has killed 4,117 enemy, secured 4,624 detainees for interrogation, captured 1,537 individual weapons, and nearly 1,400 tons of rice. When the Screaming Eagles paused July 29, 1967, near Duc Pho, they were fully aware their third year in Vietnam will be like the preceding ones as their odyssey continues.</p> |
|---|--|---|--|--|---|

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# THAT RUSTING CRATE

Orders were cut, the men well trained,  
The 1st Brigade of 101st Airborne fame....  
3700 Paratroopers, all hand picked,  
To Viet Nam, they'd soon be shipped....

In early July of 1965,  
At Oakland Terminal, we did arrive....  
Thoughts of combat, we had surmised,  
But not the hulk, that met our eyes....

"Donut Dollies", cheerfully, gave us their wares,  
As if to lessen, our growing fears....  
Donuts and coffee, not enough to relieve,  
Life on land, we'd soon grieve....

Moored to the dock, THE "USNS GENERAL LEROY ELTINGE",  
On THAT RUSTING CRATE our lives would hinge... !  
A mothballed troopship, of years gone by,  
Crossing on it, would we survive... ?

Was it seaworthy?, would it stay afloat... ?,  
Drowned in saltwater, our bodies would bloat...  
All envisioned a watery grave,  
Against a shark, could you be brave... ?

Only 510 feet from bow to stern,  
Of personal space, all would yearn....  
Fighting the crowd, to get to a rail,  
Bumping each other, like cows corraled....

Moored in place, for two long nights,  
Staring at the city's lights....  
San Francisco, a great place to be,  
But California, we had not come to see....

Finally, we were underway,  
Passing Alcatraz, along the way....  
Then, under the Golden Gate, we passed,  
Wondering, how long, this voyage, to last... ?

Entering, the Pacific, oh so blue,  
Thousands of jellyfish, of many hues....  
Flying fish led the way,  
From this prison, none would stray....

Chowlines ringed the ship, all the long day,  
Standing at tables, we ate that way....  
As soldiers regurgitated, in their trays,  
The swaying of ship, slid it your way....

Saltwater showers, soap, no lather,  
On the decks, friends, struggled, to gather....  
On THAT RUSTING CRATE, there were no latrines... !  
"Oh My God", I heard someone Scream... !

Sweltering holes, in the bowels of the ship,  
Personal space, just did not exist....  
Stacked four high, on canvass cots,  
Swaying of sea, stomachs in knots....

The man above you, emptys his guts,  
Drenched in vomit, just your luck....  
Wiping yourself, with your last towel,  
Thanking God, it be not, his bowels....

Everyday, they broke up fights,  
Hoping no one, pulled a knife....  
Quarters too cramped, nerves too frayed,  
To keep the peace, our Chaplains prayed...!

Boredom became everyones enemy,  
Gambling, not considered obscenity....  
Not much to do, see or read,  
A fight or two, to make them bleed...!

One day, all fought for the rails,  
Excitement!, the carcass of a whale....  
In it's center, a huge, bloody crater,  
Feeding Albatrosses, was "Mother Nature"....

Across the ocean, we plodded along,  
Of Terra Firma, we did long....  
Ten long days and nights, at sea,  
No gravy, in this damned navy....

There was no laundry, on the boat,  
We tied our fatigues, to a rope....  
Across the water, they would skip,  
Saltwater stained, as they dripped....

No room at the bow, but .... we attempted PT,  
Like the Macarena, barely, could touch our knees....  
By the numbers, one, two, three, four,  
"Tell the people, what she wore"....

Only peanut brittle, sold at the ships store,  
Boxes of "Pecos Pete", we did hoard....  
"Crunch, crunch, crunch", became an annoying sound,  
One more bite, we'd go twelve rounds...!

On clear nights, a movie, some saw,  
Only a small unit, could answer that call....  
Too many men, for all to see,  
A sudden downpour, our first fatality...!

A trooper asleep, on a lower deck,  
The stairwell crowded, getting wet....  
Unknowingly, a soldier leapt,  
Landing full force, crushing his chest...!



No space, so into the brig, his body went,  
No airconditioning to purge deaths scent....  
Suddenly all was quiet, not a sound,  
The engines failed, our hearts did pound....

For a solid day, we were adrift,  
Prayed for something, anything, to give us a lift....  
Finally, the crew, got us underway,  
Another prayer, to keep us going our way....

Into Subic Bay, for repairs and rest,  
They docked the ship, three abreast....  
Ashore for just two hours, but it was swell,  
Enough to down, some "San Miguels"....

Our casualty disembarked with prayers,  
As mechanics completed, much needed repairs....  
Never had I seen a place so green,  
As we said "goodbye", to the Philippines....

Only two days from Cam Ranh Bay,  
New anxieties, came our way....  
Can you kill?, are you prepared to die... ?  
"Ours is but to do and die, not ours to reason, WHY?"...?

One day out, miraculously, the struggling stopped,  
For each other, suddenly, we cared alot....  
On that ship, a band of brothers, we became,  
Calling each other, by first names....

Suddenly, a fighter plane, flew by,  
Tilting it's wings, a welcoming "Hi"....  
An immediate bond, to other military branches,  
The NVA would fight, all our lances... !

Excitedly!, someone shouted, "LAND",  
Of mountainous jungles, palms and sand....  
As evening fell, "The Eltinge" docked,  
Reality!, Viet Nam, now our lot....

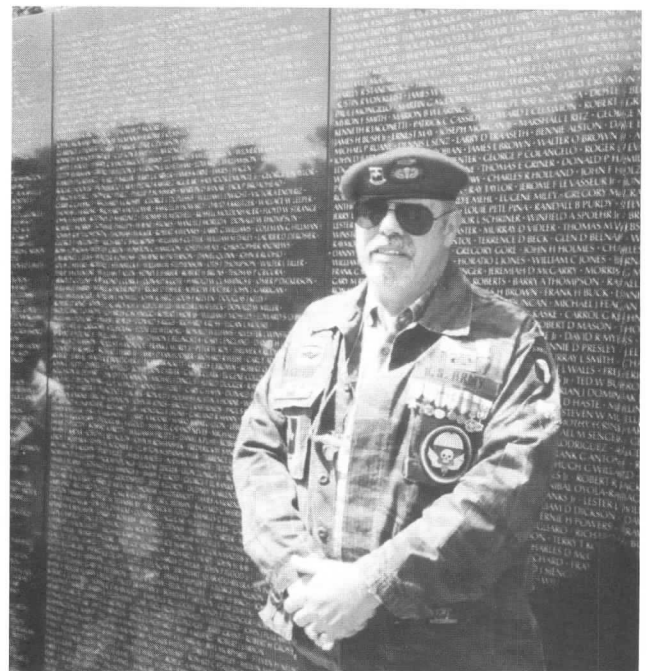
THAT RUSTING CRATE, now a refuge, one last night,  
Concussion grenades, boomed, to morning light....  
Into a hostile land, we disembarked to meet our fate,  
A sentimental, "GOODBYE", to THAT RUSTING CRATE... !

This poem was inspired by my good friend, JIM  
SOPRANO, one of the "Boat People".

Peter S. Griffin  
Co. A, 2/502nd Infantry  
101st Airborne Division  
Viet Nam, 1965-66



*Peter Griffin in Viet Nam 1965.*



*Peter Griffin at The Wall.*

# KILLED IN ACTION AND NON-BATTLE DEATHS BY DATE

| DOD      | Grade | Last Name    | First Name | Middle Name | Generation | Home State | DOB    | Casualty Category | SSN      | Status | Cause of Death | Compliment Cause | Province  | Component | DMOS  |
|----------|-------|--------------|------------|-------------|------------|------------|--------|-------------------|----------|--------|----------------|------------------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| 12/10/65 | SP4   | Boston       | Charles    | E           |            | AZ         | / / 42 | BD                | 18671780 | KOR    | Unk            | Other Wpns       | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11B2P |
| 12/10/65 | SP4   | Sagon        | Rudy       | M           |            | D.C.       | / / 45 | BD                | 10119077 | KOR    | Unk            | Other Wpns       | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11C40 |
| 12/10/65 | SP4   | Shank        | Ralph      |             |            | NM         | / / 41 | BD                | 52578553 | DOW    | Unk            | Mines            | Tuyen Duc | USAR      | 11B2P |
| 12/14/65 | SSG   | Valasquez    | Pete       | A           |            | CA         | / / 42 | BD                | 17553440 | DOW    | Unk            | Other Wpns       | Tuyen Duc | RA        | 11B40 |
| 12/15/65 | PFC   | McWilliams   | Richard    | E           |            | NY         | / / 46 | BD                | 18713696 | DOW    | Unk            | Other Wpns       | Tuyen Duc | RA        | 11D40 |
| 12/15/65 | SGT   | Grey         | James      | W           |            | AR         | / / 39 | BD                | 19589859 | KOR    | Unk            | Other Wpns       | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11B40 |
| 1/8/66   | PFC   | Timmons      | Michael    | V           |            | NM         | / / 47 | NBD               | 15713474 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Phu Bon   | RA        | 11B1P |
| 1/10/66  | SP4   | Spain        | Hugh       | Fred        |            | PA         | / / 41 | BD                | 53382814 | DOW    | AC CNAS        | SA Fire          | Tuyen Duc | USAR      | 67N20 |
| 1/13/66  | PFC   | Lewis        | John       | Wesley      | Jr         | ND         | / / 39 | BD                | 52614051 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | USAR      | 91B2P |
| 1/16/66  | SGT   | Webb         | Donald     |             |            | TX         | / / 42 | NBD               | 15692258 | KOR    | Unk            | Other Wpns       | Phu Bon   | RA        | 11B4P |
| 1/17/66  | SP5   | Jackson      | David      | Lee         | Jr         | NM         | / / 41 | BD                | 52524443 | DOW    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Tuyen Duc | RA        | 11B40 |
| 1/20/66  | PFC   | Skodmin      | Anthony    |             |            | MT         | / / 45 | NBD               | 12685796 | KOR    | Unk            | Other Wpns       | Phu Bon   | RA        | 94B1P |
| 1/23/66  | PFC   | Rowland      | John       | W           | Jr         | CT         | / / 43 | BD                | 53388360 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | USAR      | 11B10 |
| 1/23/66  | SP4   | Elisovsky    | David      | H           |            | AK         | / / 47 | BD                | 10820574 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11B4P |
| 1/24/66  | PFC   | Sullivan     | Richard    | A           |            | AR         | / / 46 | BD                | 19812589 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11B10 |
| 1/24/66  | SSG   | Cox          | Edward     | J           |            | ND         | / / 30 | BD                | 15261768 | DOW    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Tuyen Duc | RA        | 71H40 |
| 1/28/66  | SP4   | Devlin       | Thomas     | R           |            | MT         | / / 46 | NBD               | 12684529 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Phu Bon   | RA        |       |
| 1/29/66  | SP4   | Phillips     | Warren     | E           |            | HI         | / / 46 | BD                | 17703232 | DOW    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Tuyen Duc | RA        | 11B20 |
| 1/30/66  | PFC   | Edmondson    | Harold     | T           | Jr         | OK         | / / 46 | BD                | 14844625 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11C1P |
| 2/2/66   | PFC   | Philbin      | Richard    | G           |            | AR         | / / 46 | BD                | 19802157 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11D2P |
| 2/2/66   | SGT   | Bailey       | Jesse      | T           | Jr         | SD         | / / 30 | BD                | 13234143 | DOW    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Tuyen Duc | RA        | 11B4P |
| 2/3/66   | SGT   | Youngbear    | Richard    | O           |            | HI         | / / 39 | BD                | 17499305 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11B4P |
| 2/4/66   | 2LT   | Wallace      | Frankie    | L           |            | AL         | / / 40 | BD                | 102387   | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 71542 |
| 2/4/66   | SGT   | Carter       | Ardon      | W           |            | PR         | / / 29 | NBD               | 25884323 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Phu Bon   | RA        | 13B4P |
| 2/6/66   | FSG   | Vaczi        | Alex       | E           |            | LA         | / / 30 | BD                | 16225896 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11B5P |
| 2/6/66   | PFC   | Hayes        | Timothy    | L           |            | Guam       | / / 44 | BD                | 16766801 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11B10 |
| 2/6/66   | PFC   | Piper        | Walter     |             | Jr         | TN         | / / 46 | BD                | 19836142 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11B1P |
| 2/6/66   | SGT   | Thomas       | Roy        | E           |            | AL         | / / 39 | BD                | 14670455 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11B4P |
| 2/6/66   | SP4   | Guerrero     | Joseph     | D           |            | Guam       | / / 47 | BD                | 16791932 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11B2P |
| 2/6/66   | SSG   | Mollohan     | Steven     | P           |            | TX         | / / 33 | BD                | 52368401 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11B4P |
| 2/7/66   | 1LT   | Gardner      | James      | A           |            | PA         | / / 43 | BD                | 5321930  | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 71542 |
| 2/7/66   | 1LT   | Sanford      | John       | F           |            | ND         | / / 42 | BD                | 5322011  | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 71542 |
| 2/7/66   | PFC   | Broadhead    | David      | J           |            | RI         | / / 46 | BD                | 19795382 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11B1P |
| 2/7/66   | PFC   | Butler       | Wilbert    | R           |            | CO         | / / 45 | BD                | 12728863 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11B1P |
| 2/7/66   | PFC   | Coltran      | Robert     | C           |            | PA         | / / 47 | BD                | 14860611 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11C10 |
| 2/7/66   | PFC   | Rush         | Kenneth    |             |            | IL         | / / 47 | BD                | 15716653 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11B1P |
| 2/7/66   | PFC   | Shufelt      | George     | J           |            | KY         | / / 47 | BD                | 11442314 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11B1P |
| 2/7/66   | PFC   | Snow         | Ronald     | M           |            | NV         | / / 45 | BD                | 12725475 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11C1P |
| 2/7/66   | PFC   | Vaughn       | John       | P           |            | AR         | / / 44 | BD                | 19733781 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 71Q2P |
| 2/7/66   | PVT   | OShaughnessy | John       | F           |            | MT         | / / 46 | BD                | 12685524 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11H10 |
| 2/7/66   | SGT   | Garcia       | David      | B           |            | CA         | / / 40 | BD                | 17489530 | DOW    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Tuyen Duc | RA        | 11B4P |
| 2/7/66   | SGT   | Huey         | Herman     | L           |            | LA         | / / 36 | BD                | 14682835 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11C4P |
| 2/7/66   | SGT   | Langer       | Frederick  | P           |            | ND         | / / 35 | BD                | 13673932 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11C40 |
| 2/7/66   | SGT   | Marrietta    | Harold     | J           |            | Samoa      | / / 33 | BD                | 19399012 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11B2P |
| 2/7/66   | SGT   | McRoberts    | Clifford   | W           |            | AR         | / / 40 | BD                | 19617803 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11B4P |
| 2/7/66   | SGT   | Montoya      | Alexander  |             |            | CA         | / / 40 | BD                | 17607442 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11B40 |
| 2/7/66   | SGT   | Powell       | Morris     | J           |            | DE         | / / 42 | BD                | 14770369 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11B40 |
| 2/7/66   | SP4   | Byrd         | Ralph      |             |            | PA         | / / 43 | BD                | 15692516 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11C2P |
| 2/7/66   | SP4   | Crossland    | Richard    | G           |            | PR         | / / 44 | BD                | 18677896 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 36A1P |
| 2/7/66   | SP4   | Cunningham   | Prince     | C           |            | NV         | / / 43 | BD                | 51483044 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11B20 |
| 2/7/66   | SP4   | Grant        | Johnnie    |             |            | CT         | / / 43 | BD                | 14868677 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11C20 |
| 2/7/66   | SP4   | Jackson      | Sylvester  |             | Jr         | OK         | / / 45 | BD                | 53391696 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | USAR      | 11B20 |
| 2/7/66   | SP4   | James        | Lee        | A           | Jr         | NV         | / / 41 | BD                | 51484264 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11B20 |
| 2/7/66   | SP4   | Johnson      | Alfred     | L           |            | NM         | / / 45 | BD                | 15693442 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11B2P |
| 2/7/66   | SP4   | Olson        | Duane      | V           |            | UT         | / / 42 | BD                | 55754573 | DOW    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Tuyen Duc | USAR      | 17B1P |
| 2/7/66   | SP4   | Rivera       | Thomas     | S           |            | WY         | / / 43 | BD                | 50010338 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | USAR      | 11B20 |
| 2/7/66   | SP4   | Robison      | Jim        | B           |            | AR         | / / 44 | BD                | 14819634 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11B2P |
| 2/7/66   | SP4   | White        | Robert     | A           |            | SD         | / / 46 | BD                | 13812671 | KOR    | Unk            | SA Fire          | Khanh Hoa | RA        | 11B2P |

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# A REAL DIPLOMAT

**HEADQUARTERS  
UNITED STATES MILITARY  
ASSISTANCE COMMAND, VIETNAM  
APO San Francisco 96243**

Story and Photos by SFC Charles W. Curry

CAM RANH BAY, Republic of Vietnam (MACV IO) – “Healing is a matter of time, but it is sometimes also a matter of opportunity,” said Hippocrates. Army Doctor Charles R. Wermuth, Battalion Surgeon with the 101st Airborne Division is finding that opportunity.

The New Jersey Captain spends an hour every evening with the people of Ba Ngoi Village, near the sun-baked jungle where the troopers of the 327th Infantry have set up their defenses for the huge engineering project here.

On his first visit to the village, Captain Wermuth looked at a group of children playing in the tiny school yard around the village chief’s headquarters turned school room and remarked, “Look at the children. They look so happy and healthy.” He was sure he wouldn’t have many patients this day.

After parking his open jeep near the school and taking out his medical bag, he looked closer at the children and a look of compassion crossed his face.

“These people really do need our help,” he said. “Just look at this pretty little girl. She’ll have to be operated on to remove these infected glands. There’s nothing I can do for her now, but when we have our hospital I’ll remove them,” he promised.

The doctor and his medical aidmen enjoyed their first contact with the local town people, and the people were

delighted with them. Open cuts and other minor injuries that would normally go unattended were cleaned and dressed. Injections of healing penicillin were given several children with respiratory ailments. One woman watched as a young medic washed her daughter’s head, which was infected and covered with scabs from dirt.

Like the great bald eagle, a symbol of strength to the American people, the men with the “Screaming Eagle” on their shoulder are becoming a symbol of hope and happiness for the people of Ba Ngoi.



**HEADQUARTERS  
UNITED STATES MILITARY ASSISTANCE COM-  
MAND, VIETNAM  
APO San Francisco 96243**

*CAM RANH BAY – Army Doctor (Captain) Charles R. Wermuth of Palmyra, NJ, Battalion Surgeon for 1st Bn, 327th Infantry, 101st Airborne Div, checks an adult villager for a liver ailment during his first visit to a small village near their defense encampment. His advice to the suffering villager was, “Don’t drink.”*

(U.S. ARMY PHOTO)





# Capt Brown Wins DSC For Tou Morong

**SAIGON (D&W)** — The President of the United States has ordered Captain Walter R. Brown, Company "A," 2d Battalion, 502d Infantry awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for the captain's extraordinary heroism at the battle of Tou Morong. The award, the nation's second highest for valor, is the third to a member of the 1st Brigade for actions in Vietnam.

During the three days of June 9th to the 11th, Capt.

Brown commanding Company "A" of the 502d was ordered to reinforce Company "C" — Capt. William Carpenter's unit which was surrounded by a Viet Cong battalion.

Brown assembled his company and began a 3000 meter march through darkness and treacherous terrain to the battle area. As his company reached the top of the mountain overlooking the beleaguered "Charlie" Company, it received intense fire.

Capt. Brown led a squad to the flank of the insurgent positions and initiated an assault that killed nine enemy and forced the remainder of the force to flee.

During the assault, Brown charged a machine gun emplacement and personally killed three men. Although the situation was extremely tense, he positioned himself with the lead element and continued to advance toward the surrounded sister company. Descending the mountain

and entering the Dak Ta Kan Valley the lead element again received fire from surrounding high ground. While the rest of the company continued forward, the captain maneuvered his machine guns into a position where they placed suppressing fire on the insurgents.

As his unit reached the perimeter of the beleaguered Company "C," the rear element was attacked by a determined Viet Cong force and one trooper fell, seriously

wounded. Brown hurried 30 meters down a slope to the wounded trooper and carried him to safety. He positioned his men to repel repeated Viet Cong attacks, and throughout the next 30 hours he continuously carried ammunition, called in air strikes, and adjusted artillery fire.

During a mortar attack on the morning of the 10th, the captain moved about the battlefield and helped move wounded soldiers from ex-  
*(Cont'd on p-4, Col. 5)*

*The First Brigade*

## DIPLOMAT AND WARRIOR

Published Weekly For The 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division

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VOL. I, No. 23 VIETNAM OCT. 28, 1966

## C-130 and Crew Downed 101st Spearheads Recovery



At the site of a USAF C-130 crash in the mountains near Phan Rang Major Jerry C. Scott, Task Force commander, and Capt. Thomas M. Schlaak, Support Battalion, discuss their next move in recovering the bodies of the crash victims. (Photo by Sp4 Oddvar Breiland)

### NINH THUAN (D&W)—

Paratroopers from two platoons of the 327th Infantry led an Allied-Inter-service Task Force to the site of a downed USAF C-130 and its crew of five on Tuesday in the mountains northeast of Phan Rang in Ninh Thuan Province.

The task force moved overland through dense jungle for four hours before reaching the site. An Air Force Munitions Maintenance team checked the wreckage for booby traps and a 326th Engineer Battalion work party cleared a landing zone so AF crash investigators could be brought to the scene.

There were no survivors of the crash among the five crew members and there were no passengers. The wreckage of the plane, which was missing more than a week, was spread over a wide area on the side of a steep mountain which required the use of ropes to traverse.

### NOTICE

If you hold a receipt for a privately owned weapon which is in custody at Tan Son Nhut AFB by the 377th Combat Support Group, your weapon must be claimed by 20 December or it will be disposed of by that unit.

USARV-IO



The new commander of the 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry, is former brigade executive officer Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Collins. He takes over from Lt. Col. Walter Meinzen (r) who is on his way to a new post in the Department of Research and Development at the Pentagon, Gen. Pearson (l) congratulates Meinzen.

## Vung Ro Bay's Port Dedicated To Late Col

**TUY HOA** — The new port facilities at Vung Ro Bay were dedicated last week to the memory of Lieutenant Colonel Earnest E. Lane Jr., commander of the 39th Engineer Battalion, who was fatally wounded while making an aerial reconnaissance of the area that is now the port and connecting road complex.

A 1945 graduate of the Military Academy at West Point, Col. Lane is survived by his wife and three children.

"It is only fitting and proper that we select him and his name for this particular facility," said Brigadier General Robert R. Ploger, commanding general of the 18th Engineer Brigade and engineer officer of USARV, as he dedicated Port Lane. Major General Stanley R. Larsen, commanding general I Field Force Vietnam, and General Ploger then uncovered the dedication plaque which will stand at the entrance of the port.

Four engineer units contributed to the building of

the fort. Company "A," 39th Engineer Battalion landed on the beach after a clearing force from the 2d Battalions of the 502d and the 327th Infantries had swept the area clear of enemy troops. The 497th Port Construction Company, 572d Light Equipment Company and 553rd Float Bridge Company also construct the port complex. Port Lane will be an important part of the 1st Logistical Command's support effort for the entire Tuy Hoa valley area.

## Brown's DSC

*(Cont'd from p-1, Col. 5)*

posed positions. Working against superior odds, he gathered his men and successfully fought through the enemy encirclement of Company "C."

An evacuation landing zone was established by a provisional company 1000 meters from Alpha and Charlie Companies' position. Forty-five litter casualties and other wounded made a 12 hour journey through sporadic harassing fire to the LZ. While on the way, Brown was wounded by a grenade explosion but helped his comrades carry the litters to the evacuation point.

The award was first given to Sp4 Patrick J. Payne in August for Payne's actions with the 327th Infantry during the battle of My Canh last February. Payne received his award at Letterman General Hospital where he was recovering from serious wounds suffered at My Canh. The award was also given just two weeks ago to Lt. Col. David Hackworth by the Army Chief of Staff in Pentagon ceremonies for the colonel's actions at Tou Morong while XO of the 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry.



# BOOK REVIEW,

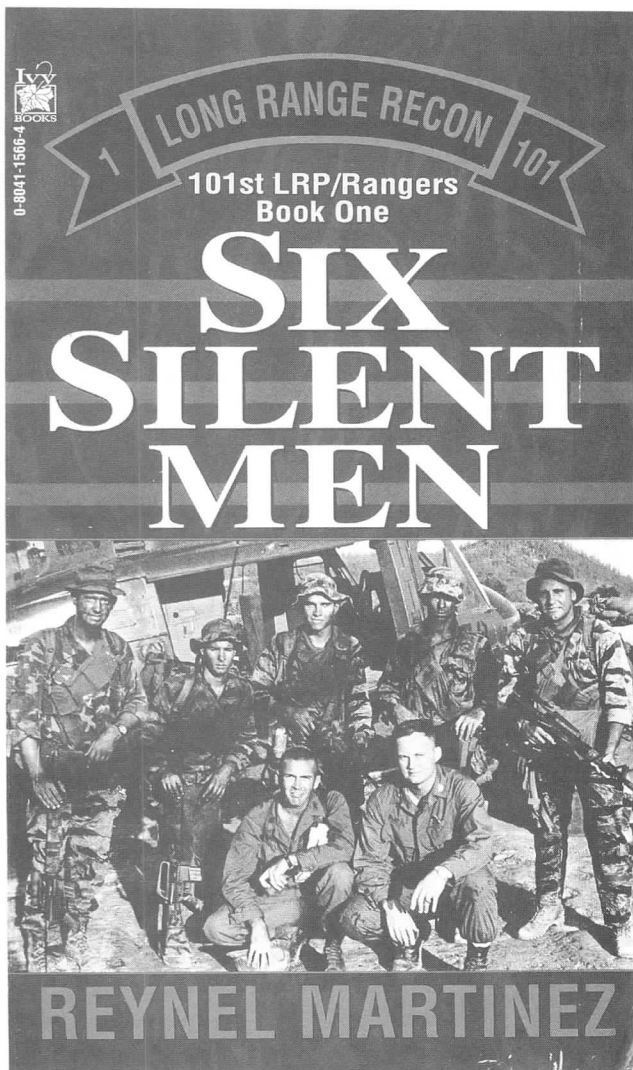
by Ivan Worrell

## SIX SILENT MEN

101st LRP/RANGERS, Book One

By Reynel Martinez - 362 pages - illustrated - paperback  
- Ivy Press - ISBN 0-8041-1566-4 - \$5.99 in the U.S.

The introduction was written by former 1st Brigade Commanding General (January 1967 - January 1968) Major General S. H. Matheson, USA, Ret.



"With the publication of this first volume of the history of the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division's Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol's experiences in Vietnam, I wish to pay tribute to their exploits and devotion to duty. They were distinguished in their willingness to take chances and risks. They were trailblazers for their successors, the Ranger units who succeeded them in the later days of the Vietnam conflict."

"The recollections and personal experiences of these LRRPs characterize the boldness and unselfish devotion

to each other. They were fitting successors to their forebears in the 101st Airborne Division."

S. H. Matheson, Major General (U.S.A., Ret), Carmel, California, 25 June 1996.

Sergeant First Class Larry E. Forrest, USA, Ret., (The Black Icicle), who carried the colors of the 1/327 when the 1st Brigade arrived at Cam Ranh Bay was an original 1st Brigade LRRP. He sent a copy of SIX SILENT MEN, in which he is very prominent, after the layout of the July issue of THE DIPLOMAT AND WARRIOR was complete.

This historic account of the 1st Brigade LRRP Teams is better than some fiction. The stories of real engagements with the enemy are packed with examples of individual and team courage by men who volunteered for this extremely dangerous and demanding assignment in the Brigade Headquarters LRRP unit.

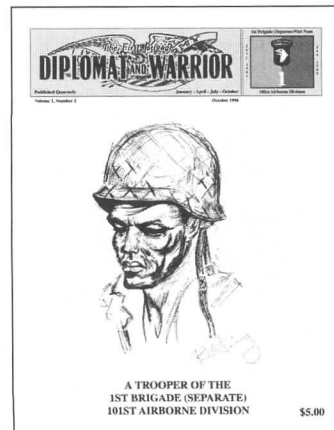
The story that begins with the initial formation of the 1st Brigade Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol organization has been remarkably well researched and documented. The author must have had great cooperation from many of the former team members and have shown great persistence in obtaining interviews and insights from his contributors.

Reynel Martinez writes, in his AUTHOR'S NOTE, that "This book represents six years of research and documenting, most of it devoted to taping recollections and patiently transcribing hundreds of hours of conversational interviews so as to retrieve the history accurately." He also apologizes for unintentional errors and for Brave Lurps who were not mentioned.

More names of participants were mentioned in this book than in any other battle history I have read. The text has the completeness of an after action report underneath and supporting the writing of a great storyteller.



For single copies of the July or October issues of THE DIPLOMAT AND WARRIOR send check or money order (no credit cards please) for \$5.00 + \$1.50 for shipping, a total of \$6.50, each to P. O. Box 675, Sweetwater, TN 37874-0675.



## 502ND INFANTRY DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS OF THE REGIMENT

In the July issue, page 25, of the *DIPLOMAT AND WARRIOR* a photograph depicted the 327th Distinguished Members of the Regiment presented during the May reunion. The photo BELOW shows the 502nd veterans honored as Distinguished Members of the Regiment at the same ceremony.

The following individuals were inducted into the 502nd Infantry Regiment Hall of Fame (L to R).



**Chief Warrant Officer 4 (Retired) Frank Wohlfahrt** was a distinguished member of 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry in Vietnam from 1967 to 1968. Chief Wohlfahrt was awarded the Bronze Star with one Oak Leaf Cluster and the Meritorious Service Medal.

**Sergeant First Class (Retired) James G. Moffitt**, completed two tours in Vietnam with the 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry. He was awarded the Bronze Star with "V" Device.

**Ben Lam**, served as an interpreter for 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry from 1965-1967. He also served as interpreter for Division Headquarters 1967-1971. He was an Army Republic of Vietnam Company Commander from 1972-1975. Mr. Lam was imprisoned by the Vietnamese Communists from 1975-1980, when he escaped reeducation camp, and made his way to America in 1980.

**Peter S. Griffin**, served as a 106 Millimeter Recoilless Rifle Gunner, for Alpha Company, 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry from September 1965 to May 1966. He was awarded the Silver Star for actions during Operation Hawthorne.

**Timothy Swain**, served as Platoon Leader for Bravo Company 2/502nd Infantry, the Battalion S-1 and the Assistant Brigade S-2. He also participated in Task Force Hanson from November 1965 to July 1966.

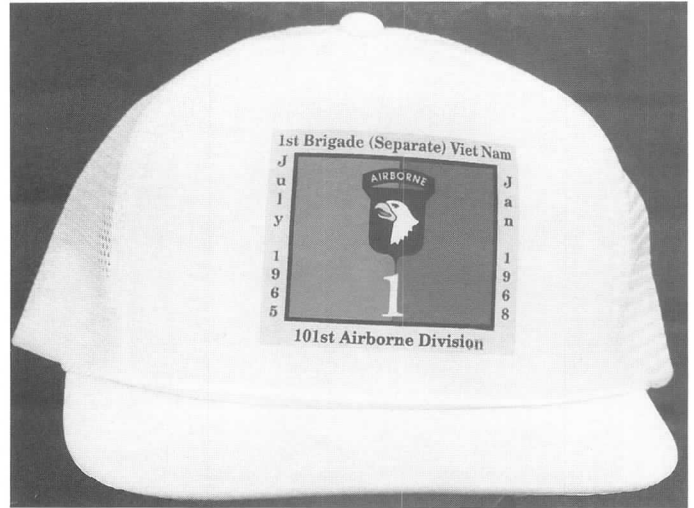


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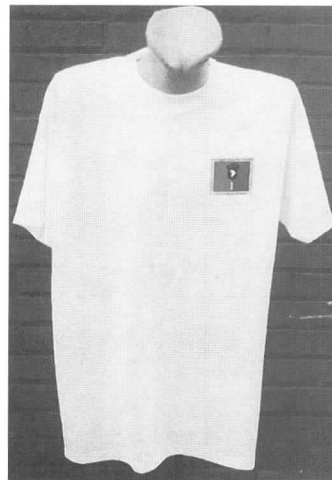
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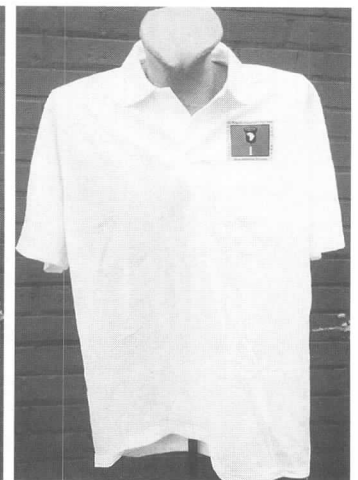


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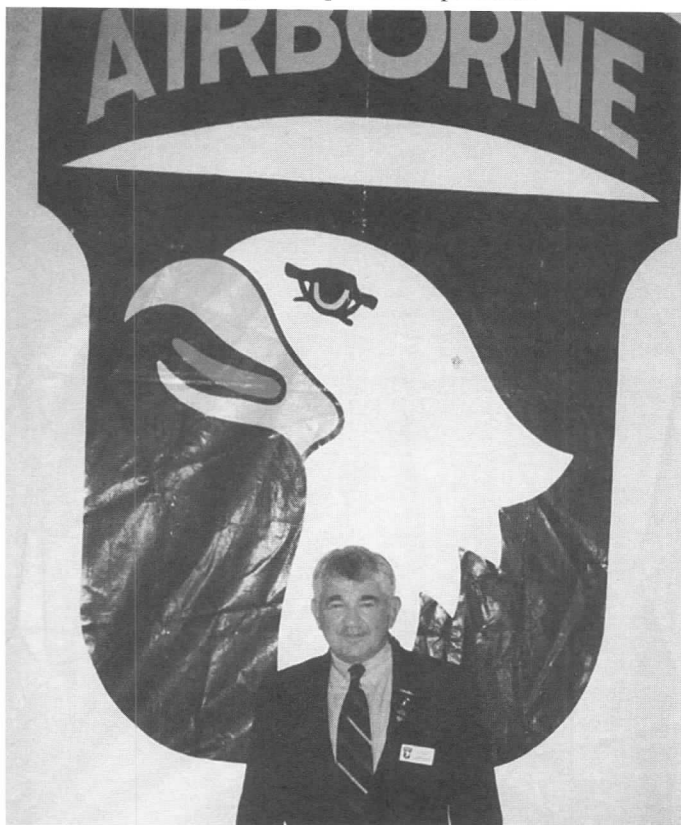
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## 53RD ANNUAL 101ST ASSN REUNION

By, Ivan Worrell

The 53rd Annual Reunion of the 101st Airborne Division Association was held in Omaha, Nebraska, from August 19, 1998 through August 22, 1998. The Holiday Inn (Reunion Headquarters) was outstanding in service and cooperation.

Midwest Chapter, 101st Airborne Division Association Reunion Chairman **Terry A. Zahn** (101st HQ VN 4/53 - 4/66) and Chapter Secretary **Charles E. "Chuck" Luczynski** (A 101st AVN VN 67 - 68) along with many chapter volunteers made the total reunion a resounding success. All activities at the hotel and in other locations in Omaha were well planned and operated with efficiency that made those attending appreciate the thorough dedication of the Midwest Chapter to host a reunion and to make sure all attending had a positive experience.



*Richard Schonberger, 101st Airborne Division Association President for 1998 - 1999. [Worrell photo]*

Veterans of the 1st Brigade (Separate) played a big part in the success of the reunion as well as being elected to serve as officers, members of the Board of Governors and committee chairmen.

**Richard C. Schonberger** (2/327 HHC VN 8/66 - 7/67) will serve as Association President for the 1998 - 1999 association year. **Chaplain Robert C. (Bob) Harlee** (2/327 VN 65 - 66) is one of two association chaplains, **Chaplain Richard L. Heim** is the other association chaplain, **Jim C. Joiner** (2/327 VN 67 - 68) is a member of the Board of Governors representing the 327/401, **Billy C. Colwell, Sr.** (326th Engineers VN 65 - 66) is a new governor representing Combat Support Troops, **Terry R. Zahn** (1st

Brigade HQ VN 4/53 - 4/66) was Reunion Chairman and **J. D. Vance** (B 2/502 VN 67 - 68) printed a great Reunion Book.



*Reunion Chairman Terry Zahn displays a plate presented by Matthew van Luyt President of the Society of Dutch Airborne Friends. [Worrell photo]*

The luncheon, planned for 1st Brigade (Separate) veterans produced great quality but a small headcount. Those present were: **Chaplain Bob Harlee**, **J. D. Vance**, **Richard Schonberger**, **Command Sergeant Major Robert A. Young, USA, Ret.** (Brigade Command Sergeant Major 66 - 67), **Vic Thompson** (A 2/502 VN 2/67 - 8/67) and **Ivan Worrell**. The food was excellent, the conversation and reminiscing was very enjoyable and we were sorry that other 1st Brigade veterans who came to the reunion did not join us.

The Memorial Dinner on Friday, August 21st was the very best 101st Airborne Division Association Memorial Dinner I have attended. The food was outstanding, the overall schedule was interesting for veterans of all 101st who served in combat and at Fort Campbell with the 101st.

The highlight, and the portion of the program that made this Memorial Dinner great, was the memorial display and the program that centered on the display.

The display and the memorial program was the work of two 1st Brigade (Separate) veterans: **1st Sergeant Billy C. Colwell, Sr., USA, Ret.**, (326th Engineers VN 65 - 66) and **1st Sergeant Eugene "Dino" Dean, USA, Ret.**, (326th Engineers VN 66 - 67). "Dino" Dean is President of the WK&T Chapter of the 101st Airborne Division. Billy Colwell is the prime mover in getting the design, the models and supporting printing for the fund raising effort for the 101st Airborne Division Association Fort Campbell Monument Committee. He produced all the monument material from concept to finished product.





(R to L) Billy Colwell and Eugene "Dino" Dean photographed with the Memorial display they conceived and constructed for the Memorial Dinner at the 53rd Annual Reunion of the 101st Airborne Division. [Worrell photo]

The Spirit Award of the 101st Airborne Division Association was presented to 1st Sergeant Billy C. Colwell, Sr., USA, Ret., for his long and effective work with the 101st Monument Committee and his willingness to give of himself and ask others to help to make the monument design exquisite. This award is designed, prepared and presented, on an annual basis by **Sergeant Major Roy R. "Pappy" Norris, Sr.**, (HQ 501 ABG FC). Billy, in the opinion of the Spirit Award Committee best exemplified the AIRBORNE SPIRIT during the year just past.



(L to R front) Past Association President Roy R. "Pappy" Norris presents the 1998 AIRBORNE SPIRIT AWARD to Billy C. Colwell. (L to R back) 1997-1998 101st Airborne Division Association President James N. Brennan (101st Avn VN) and Reunion Chairman Terry Zahn. [Lloyd Rahlf Photo]



Mr. Rex Boggs Curator of the Don F. Pratt Museum at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, welcomes Eric C. Sanders (2/502 HQ VN 66 - 67) to the historical exhibit room at the Omaha Reunion. The exhibit was designed and manned by Mr. Boggs. [Worrell Photo]



1st Sgt (Ret) Billy Colwell stands with some of the material he has developed for the 101st Airborne Division Monument to be built near the new museum at Fort Campbell. In addition to the monument model he has designed and executed posters, drawings, stationery and promotional material to assist in raising funds to build the monument. [Worrell Photo]

## Deadline

for material to be published in the January issue  
of **THE DIPLOMAT & WARRIOR** is  
December 1st, 1998.





enlighten some who say...20th What? ... 20th Who?. I maintain contact with two (2) members on the roster attached. **Adcock** is in Utah and **O'Malley** is in Australia. We have an undying friendship. So if you are creating a unit history, include us in it.

Editor's Note: Thanks for the 1966 history of the Chemical Detachment. It will be used in a magazine in the future.



**Don Hensley**, 2/320th FA A VN 6/63-6/66, Mogadore, OH wrote:

I enjoyed reading your first issue of The Diplomat and Warrior and look forward to future issues.

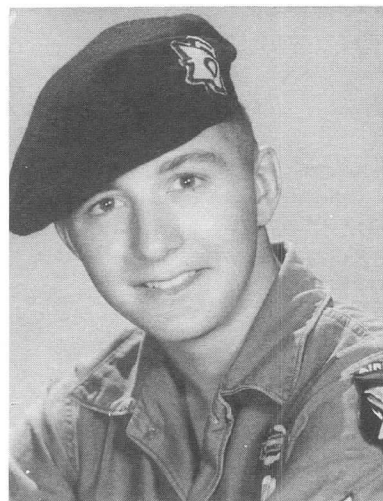
Editor's Note: He sent names and addresses of former members of the 1st Brigade who he wished subscription information to be sent to.



**Lenny A. Vitha**, 2/502 Recon 7/66-2/68, of Owatonna, MN wrote:

You mentioned about sending in some documents or articles to use in later issues of The Diplomat and Warrior. On my mailing label you had 2/17

CAV Recon, it should be 2/502 Recon Plt. (This has been corrected.) The document for award was suppose to be a Bronze Star for my actions during an on and off all night engagement with NVA in which my Recondo Plt squad had 1 KIA and 2 WIA. I groped in the dark what I thought was about 10 meters down the trail and positioned myself between the rest of the squad and the NVA in case they came back and stayed there until reinforcements arrived at first light. Even



*Leonard Allen Vitha in 1966 when he was assigned to HHC 2/502 Recon.*

though it was down graded, I was pretty proud of the award given to me. I'm sending a condensed version of a little run in my Recondo Sqd had with a Bengal tiger, it's kinda interesting, I wrote about my Recondo Plt experiences with the 2/502nd in the early 80's.

#### "Midnight Tiger or Charlie"

Twilight was settling over the jungle when our Recon squad decided it was time to get off the trail and set up a night defensive position before it became to dark. We moved down the steep mountain side 25 meters or so, laid out lines abreast and settled in for the night. It was late 1966 in the Central Highlands around the Kontum - Dak To area. I was roused out of my sleep by the person laying next to me when I heard

something come crashing through the jungle foliage. It came close to where we were laying and started circling us in the darkness. Whatever it was it moved stealthily then would stop and become absolutely quiet. I don't know how long this went on when we got on the radio and called in our predicament and soon artillery rounds were on the way exploding down slope from our position. We ended up getting off the mores that were put out before it was completely dark. We formed a column to each other and our M-16s and proceeded to move back up the mountain side to the trail then crossed over it and formed a position on the other side. The rest of night was uneventful and at first light slowly made our way back down to where the first position was. Everything was as we left it. Nothing was disturbed or messed with. That night became some good discussion between squad members. The last two or three of us (I brought up the rear) swore we could of heard a tiger growling not to far behind us and the other half swore it was NVA that might have had a idea where we were and were probing around for us. As time past it wasn't talked about again and I wrote it off as one of those strange nights that can happen in the mountainous Central Highlands.



(From VIETNAM ODYSSEY)

Another letter received from **Lenny A. Vitha**, 2/502 Recon 7/66-2/68, of Owatonna, MN:

The Recondo Plt HHC 2/502 1st Brigade had a group picture taken at Kontum around the November - December 1966 time period. I never gave the photographer the money for the print and my address to have it sent home, and to this day I'm still kicking myself in the ass for not doing so. When you get to that time period in The Diplomat and Warrior could you please print that I would really like to get a copy. Maybe there are some Recondo Plt members who have that photograph. What is special about it is that James Henry Smith was KIA later on in the Dakakoi secret base area and the squad also had 2 WIA that night. Smith was next to me in the on going night confrontation when he was killed by gunshot wounds to the chest. They are in that photo. (Date of death was listed as Dec 11 1966) I believe that's accurate. I noticed you had mail returned from **Donald Moke** who was in the plt at that time, I sent a letter off to him the same day I received the D&W, but it looks like the letter may come back to me undeliverable. I continued parachute jumping when I returned home and earned my D-Class license and gold wings for over 1000 free falls. I set a state (Minnesota, that is) high altitude record in June of 1983 with a free fall from 30,000 feet. I hung up the gear in 1985 with 1,113 free falls in my log book and got into ultra light flying. To date I fly my Quicksilver MX out of the Owatonna, MN, airport and have currently 1,102 (one thousand one hundred and two) hours flight time since 1985. I have a lot of Screaming Eagle patches and stickers on the nose faring and when I have it displayed at fly-ins and air shows, I get young

and older 101 Vets coming up and talking to me. During my years of jumping, I had a large Screaming Eagle patch on the left leg of my jumpsuit, so you can see being in the 101 had a profound effect on me, and I'm still up in the air today. I really enjoy it. P.S. I damaged the newspaper clipping of me prior to take off for state record attempt. Maybe if you copied it, it might cover over or not be to noticeable. Sorry I tried to be careful but it was really stuck to photo album.

Editor's Note: He sent three photos and a newspaper clip along with a copy of orders awarding him the Gallantry Cross with Bronze Star by the Republic of South Vietnam. The citation reads:

PFC Leonard Vitha, RA 17721035, HHC, 2d Bn (Abn), 502d Infantry. During the period of 9 Dec 66 thru 17 Jan 67, while participating in operations Pickett I and II in the Dakaoi secret base area in Kontum Province, RVN, PFC Vitha displayed outstanding personal courage and bravery while his unit was engaged with an enemy force. PFC Vitha advanced under heavy fire to occupy the high ground, estimated the situation, and was instrumental in defeating the enemy force.



**COL (Ret) William E. Weber**, Executive Editor of THE AIRBORNE QUARTERLY wrote:

Congratulations on your premiere issue of the magazine. A damn good start and one that foretells a very good future! I have come to deeply appreciate the problems associated with putting out a magazine. At this stage of my advanced years I was looking forward to some R&R. Instead I find myself pushing deadlines and coping with increasing costs. Not exactly, "retired" retirement! However, I must admit that there is also a very real sense of satisfaction once an issue is put to bed! Of course, that is almost immediately followed by the knowledge that another one must be started. Thus, it is important that those who are the recipients of the labor at least let you know they like what they get! Accordingly, this letter. I like what I got and I commend you on doing a first rate job. Makes me hark back to the days of our labors on the 50th. I'm not getting to far with the idea of a 60/2000 Anniversary in KC. Several of the smaller outfits have expressed interest but the "biggies" are not so inclined. Have not yet decided whether or not to "go" or "no go" doing it under an individual attendance basis. Have about 350 who have expressed an intent to attend but --? Maybe I'm just getting too old! Anyway and again, congratulations! I look forward to future issues. In airborne comradeship!



**Rich Pauley**, D 326th MED 62-66 wrote: "You might want to change your dates. The advanced party was there in late May or early June.

Editor's Note: The dates July 1965 - January 1968 are the dates the brigade was officially assigned to MACV as a separate unit and when it returned to the 101st Airborne Division control.



**John R. (Russ) McDonald**, C 1/327, of Clarksville, TN wrote: I also served with the 3/506 67-68. Please include this unit with the 1st Brigade.

Editor's Note: My copy of VIETNAM ORDER OF BATTLE by Shelby L. Stanton, shows the **3d Battalion, 506th Infantry** (Airmobile Infantry) arrived in Viet Nam on 23 October 1967 from Fort Campbell. The 3d Battalion, 506th Infantry ("Currahee") was sent to Viet Nam as the fourth maneuver battalion of the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) in Viet Nam. The locations shown are Phan Rang Oct. 67 - Nov 67, Phan Rang Dec. 67 and Phan Rang/Song Be Jan. 68. This battalion will be included in future lists of 1st Brigade Infantry Battalions.



**David Wing** C 3/506 7/67 - 9/68 also sent e-mail about the absence of 3/506 on the Order of Battle of the 1st Brigade.

Wanted to let you know I received my first issue and was impressed with the contents. I am looking forward to future issues and have one comment. I noticed my old unit, 3/506, wasn't included in the Order of Battle. We arrived In Country 11/67 and were attached to the 1st Brigade. Hope to see articles about the "Currahees" in the future. I can provide some information and photos if you need them. Airborne, David Wing.



**Gerard LaVecchia** 1st BDE HQ 2/66 - 3/67 is looking for those that served with LRRP from January 66 - March 67. "I also just read SIX SILENT MEN. A lot was left out and some things not really that way. Thanks."

Editor's Note: See review of SIX SILENT MEN in this issue.



**Venita F. Bukowinski**, widow of **Edward Bukowinski**, A 1/327 Viet Nam 9/66 - 8/67, wrote to say that Ed has passed away and that she would appreciate the subscription.



**Michael R. McKenzie**, 2/327 RECON 9/66 - 67, sent a copy of a commemorative coin (see below) that he says was issued on 17 September 66, at the time he ended his tour (DEROS). His coin has his name and serial number engraved on the back. This was in response to an inquiry from **Larry Pretzer** in the July 1998 issue. These coins were rather easy to find a few years ago. I checked with a few sources and find they are now in short supply. I ordered two from **Pappy Norris**. They will be used to



make the reproduction shown here. He is getting his Kontum, 1966, jump photos together to send for publication. He also asked if **Daryl Donaldson**, mentioned in the July issue, was in the 2/327 HAWK RECON in 1967? Yes, see address in New Subscribers.



**SFC Randolph Worrell**, USAR, Ret., C 2/502 6/67 - 6/68 sent a subscription to his "brother in combat." He also sent a few pages of material to show how he used all methods possible to get to Jump School and finally became a member of the 1st Brigade.



**Richard A. Luttrell**, A 2/327 67 - 68, wrote: Enclosed please find my check for my first year's subscription. I look forward to your magazine, it will be a valuable contribution to the 1st Brigade Separate History, Vietnam 65-68. The past reunion in Clarksville/Fort Campbell was a rewarding and humble experience for me. After 30 some years I reunited with some of my former troopers, **John Lawton** (Captain), **Larry Redmond** (Captain), and **Terry Wren** (RTO Spec 4). I was just a PFC myself and 18 years old at the time. Enclosed are a few articles about my former CO and a battle on October 8, 1968, it was a traumatic day for us all. I thought these old newspaper articles would assist you with some articles. There is also one about an ambush we set up on top of a tunnel complex, somehow I made that article and received a Bronze Star with V Device many years after the fact. Once again, you are doing a great service for your fellow troopers and the history of the Brigade. Airborne, No Slack, Richard A. Luttrell, A Co 2/327 Inf, Vietnam 67-68

Editor's Note: Thanks for the copies of the brigade newspaper. At least one page will be part of the January 1999 issue.



**Larry F. Melton**, B 1/327 6/67 - 7/68, sent a note with his subscription check saying "I've heard nothing but great reviews on your first issue." "Wishing you the very best with this project and yourself." And a PS "Your logo is outstanding."

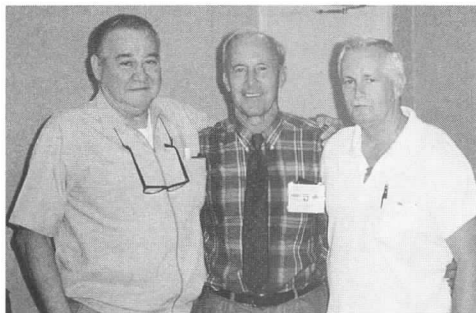


**Molly Appleman** (wife of Harvey Appleman, HQ 1/327) sent a note saying she enjoyed The Diplomat and Warrior very much and is looking forward to the next quarterly magazine.



**Joseph A. Garcia**, A 2/17 CAV, 8/65 - 9/68, wrote: The 1st Brigade (Sep) 101st Airborne Division Reunion 1998 held at Clarksville, TN/Fort Campbell, KY on 21-23 May is now history, but it was successful in several ways; number of attendees, the tremendously great feeling in seeing each other and the great camaraderie shared by all, I am sure. I was quite elated in seeing friends I had not seen in 32 years. The following is in tribute and thanks to a well deserving individual.

One of several happy and delightful meeting of personnel was seeing **Chaplain Curt Bowers**. I am sure all remember him as one of 1st Bde (Sep) own, still rates best SKY PILOT status in my book. He still teaches and presents a tremendous service. I do not believe there was a dry eye at the Memorial Service on Sunday, which was conducted by Chaplain Bowers, **Chaplain (Bob) Harlee** and assisted by **Harvey Appleman**, a beautiful service in honor of our fallen Screaming Eagles. "Grand job, fellows."



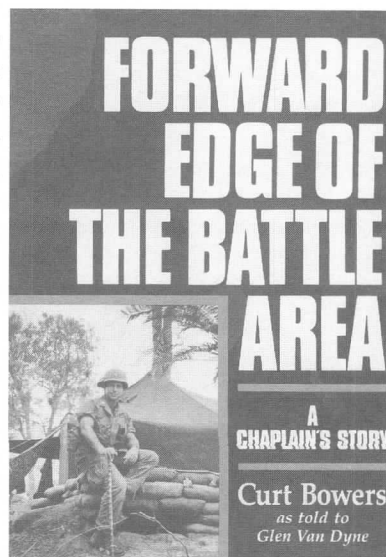
Enclosed is a photo of Chaplain Bowers, center, Mike Frieze on the right (who incidentally won the M1 Rifle raffle) and myself, Joe Garcia, on the left.

Ivan, I have read Chaplain Bowers book, FORWARD EDGE OF THE BATTLE AREA, "F.E.B.A." and I was quite impressed and I surely recommend it to all, especially 1st Bde "ers." It

makes one appreciate the sacrifice and fear that a good chaplain that stays with the troops in combat must endure and overcome, in order to provide that contact and comfort to the troops with the man upstairs. For his actions of selfless devotion that took great courage, I am sure, and tremendous self-discipline and dedication, I still thank him. By his physical presence in the field of battle, he gave us the courage, hope and determination allowing us to control our fears while engaged in man's most horrendous action, war.

He reluctantly agreed to allow me to inform all that his book, FORWARD EDGE OF THE BATTLE AREA, may be purchased by calling 1-800-877-0700 - Beacon Hill Press (ask for item # 083-411-2205). You might know his selection of publishers, "Beacon Hill Press." Before I sign off, though, I just have to tell you this. Chaplain Bowers allows me to pull his leg (Airborne Leg, or course) occasionally. So I will tell you that he did fail us miserably in one area in Vietnam, even after urgent beseeching repeated requests by the troops, he still refused to turn dirty rice paddy water into cold beer. Claims we were not ready for that yet and that it was not in his FM "Loafs and Fishes, etc." What do you guys think???" "Who wasn't ready!!!!" Keep up the good work!

Joseph A. Garcia, SGM (USA RET)



**COL (R ) Dennis P. "Duke" Vasey** (1st BDE Support BN 5/65-1/66) sent the following E-Mail:

Great job; lots of information and memories.

In the mail is a copy of Letter Orders Number 5-116, 27 May 1965--the advance party is listed on the back side. Enclosed you will also find an officer list of the "Always There" Support Battalion; just for grins, I've also included a copy of my Individual Jump Record—I'm not certain but I've been told that this was the last date the 1st Brigade jumped in Vietnam. **Charles J. "Jim" Apodaca** and I were in the 52nd Infantry Officer Candidate Company—he in the "Always First" platoon and I in "Wuerpels Rangers." Reviewing "Killed in Action....." page 13, **MAJ Herbert J. Dexter's** name took me back to a meeting he organized at a Special Forces location near the My Ca dock before our redeployment from Cam Ranh Bay to Dong Ba Thin. MAJ Dexter, as S4, became my rater once the embarkation from Fort Campbell was in progress. While at Fort Campbell, I had been introduced to him; however, at that time I worked under the vigilant eye of the S3—who was all knowing—and the S2. Once in Vietnam, I played my part keeping tabs on logistics movements and, because the brigade relied on external transportation, we became early diplomats with the 116th Terminal Service Company, the 1094th Medium Boat Company (LCM), the 97th Heavy Boat Company (LCU) and the floating crane—all assets of the 4th Transportation Command (Terminal). The purpose of our trip to My Ca was to evaluate the pier and support areas—at the time of our visit the pier was used as a primary civilian departure point to Cam Ranh Bay where various Army, Navy and Air Force units were assigned—and to decide whether it could take the pressure of all the traffic we intended to push back down the road to Dong Ba Thin.

The pier was crumbling and none of the dock mounted cranes worked. There was no space to service brigade vehicles and absolutely no way to secure the area. After spending several hours riding up and down the inlet, one of the LCM coxswains said:



*On page 4 of the July issue of THE DIPLOMAT AND WARRIOR Ambassador Taylor is greeting LTC Kenneth T. Kuefler, 059493, Ordnance Corps, Commander, Support Battalion (Abn), 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, APO SF 96347.*

and it can be reached easily from the "Eltinge" down a protected road. At the end of the road there is landing area large enough to stage equipment or load and off load personnel and equipment from two LCMs simultaneously. It isn't deep enough at low tide to get a loaded LCU across. We departed My Ca in the LCM and headed up stream. Enroute the coxswain called his unit and they sent an unescorted vehicle to

meet us at the landing. We loaded the vehicle into our LCM and crossed the inlet adjacent to Dong Ba Thin. Then we drove to the main road. Once I was convinced we were headed in the right direction, we again crossed the inlet and I drove back to the main dock area in Cam Ranh and the ferry to My Ca. In front of the pier area was a corrugated steel runway that could handle a Caribou when there were no ships in port; however, as the build up continued so did the availability of aircraft to support redeployment and if the conditions weren't perfect



*Off loading equipment at the My Ca boat landing in the Dong Ba Thin Province. (From VIETNAM ODESSEY)*

any landing attempt would have been a disaster. I met MAJ Dexter and proposed two options. One was to land the brigade south of My Ca and the other was to deploy directly from the "Eltinge" overland to the LCMs and then to Dong Ba Thin. The drivers and security went back to Dong Ba Thin and we boarded the boat at My Ca and crossed to Cam Ranh Bay. Once there we studied the pier and road which passed a monastery. The LCM had remained at the proposed landing and, after we arrived by vehicle, crossed where we met our vehicles for the return trip to Nha Trang. At some point when we discussed the concept with **COL Timothy. MAJ Hanson**, the S2, asked if we could conduct an amphibious assault above the crossing area ahead of our redeploying elements. When I asked the transporters if it could be done, my question elicited so much hearty laughter that I didn't have the heart to ever mention the incident again. Apparently there were exactly three possible crossings that touched a hard surface. Everywhere else would require a long, wet walk and lots of frustration.

Again, great job on the publication. Regards, Duke Vasey



**Dewey E. Smith**, 1/327 B 7/66-7/67, of Lima, OH sent the following:

In the July issue of The Diplomat and Warrior you requested copies of any orders for valor awards in Vietnam. Attached you will find a copy of the orders for an Arcom I received in 1967 near Duc Pho. This is a photo copy so there is no need to return.

I also have several copies of issues of the original Diplomat and Warriors passed out to the troops back then. Also I have copies of the after action reports for B 1/327 from July 1966-July 1967. If any of this material will be of use to you please advise and I will have photo copies made and forwarded to you. My email address is <dksmith@wcoil.com>.

Thanks for the fine job you are doing with the current Diplomat and Warrior. Brings back many recollections of people, places and times gone by.

Above the Rest



Editor's Note: Please send originals, and they will be returned, or copies if you do not wish to chance the originals in the mail.

HEADQUARTERS  
1st BRIGADE 101st AIRBORNE DIVISION  
APO San Francisco 96347

GENERAL ORDERS NUMBER 1517, 26 July 1967

AWARD OF THE ARMY COMMENDATION  
MEDAL FOR HEROISM

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

SMITH, DEWEY E. RA15749016 SERGEANT E5 USA  
Co B, 1st Bn, 327th Inf, 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div, APO 96347  
Awarded: Army Commendation Medal with "V" Device  
Date action: 29 May 1967  
Theater: Republic of Viet Nam  
Reason: For heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force: Sergeant Smith distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 29 May 1967, in the vicinity of Duc Pho, Republic of Viet Nam. While conducting a search and destroy mission, Sergeant Smith's company became engaged with intense hostile sniper fire from well camouflaged and concealed positions. To suppress the dominating hostile fire, gunships were called. Sergeant Smith, with complete disregard for his own safety, repeatedly exposed himself to the murderous and accurate sniper fire to determine its origin and direct gunships on the target. As a result of Sergeant Smith's courageous actions, the sniper fire was quelled and the platoon was able to continue on its mission. Sergeant Smith'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.

Authority: By direction of the Secretary of the Army under the provisions of AR 672-5-1.

FOR THE COMMANDER: E. M. STRONG, MAJ, AGC,  
Adjutant General



**Gerard P. LaVecchia**, HQ 1st Bde VN 2/66-3/67 e-mailed:

Hello, I want to thank you for sending me my first copy of the D&W, which I received yesterday. First of all I was really surprised to see the Apodaca Collection of myself and Lambert. Boy did you make my day. I guess the reason that I have not been receiving any mail is because the address for me is very old. I would appreciate it if this change could be made, again thanks for your surprise and I have a few pictures of the team which I will send for your use. The book SIX SILENT MEN could use some adjusting by the way. Take care and will keep in touch.

Editor's note: The address change is complete and the team pictures and any other material will be welcomed.



The following letter was received from **Tim Swain** (HQ S2 1st Bde VN 65) on July 22, 1998:

Congratulations on the fine publication you have authored and published. We of the 101st are really fortunate to have such a professional who has the energy, the interest and the follow-through to actually get the fine job done that you have done. You would have made a fine Commanding General of the 101st Airborne Division.

1. I received my copy on Monday, July 20th. I read it cover to cover. It was so interesting and so enjoyable to hear about old friends and again see familiar names and faces. What a service you are providing. What a gift to your comrades in arms. Thank you very much.

2. Enclosed is some material on **Lt. Col. Joe Hicks (R)**. He is quite a guy so be sure to cover him sometime. When I mailed his nomination in to be a Distinguished Member of the Regiment, they named him one; but a little to my embarrassment, also named me. Joe is the guy really deserving the honors!! Incidentally, his son Colonel Stephen A. Hicks recently assumed command of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, First Infantry Division, Schweinfurt, Germany. If the brass is smart, they will make Steve a General one of these days.

3. Enclosed are some photos, with notations on the back, which fortunately, for the most part, were made shortly after the photos. I used a Minnox camera. Make copies and return at your convenience.

4. Enclosed is my scrapbook. Make copies of any material and return at your convenience. No rush.

5. Enclosed is your copy to keep of a video, which is a copy of my 8mm movie film I took in VN. I kept the plastic camera in my jungle fatigue pocket much of the time. I have the master copy, so further copies can be made. I have made some additional copies that I will send to some of those on my list. If nothing else, the music is great!!

6. Enclosed is a copy of the yearbook that I received, I believe, in the Spring, 1965 before we left for VN. Please copy anything you need and return it at your convenience. I have really used it over the years. If you could find a way to have a new printing, I think you probably could really sell some copies.

7. Enclosed is \$20 to defer the return postage. No rush on any returns.

8. Hackworth would know Foley's address. I have read all Foley's books, and found them very enjoyable.

9. For what it is worth: (a) I am flying my 5'x8' American Flag from Memorial Day to Veterans Day in support of the Flag Amendment; (b) I am boycotting Time-Warner for their defaming of all Vietnam Vets on the bogus sarin-gasing-of-Americans yarn. If you hear of any class action occurring, spread the word, so that we can join in as plaintiffs. Money is not the point, but principle is.



10. Please advise as to any address corrections; and if you get any new addresses for my list. I will then send a check to cover their subscriptions; and will probably send them a video also. I have 20 copies currently.

Cheers and kindest personal regards. AIRBORNE! Tim Swain

Tim Swain, later wrote:

Enclosed is \$30 to cover subscriptions for the following: Jesse H. Ruder Jr. and James B. Auld, Jr. Jim, in late summer 1965, was in charge of a PX in Qui Nhon; Major Hansen detailed me and some deuce and a halves to get some beer and Shasta for the Task Force Hansen troops. We accomplished the mission through the generosity of Jim Auld. I have remained in contact with him; and in fact, I told him that he was an honorary member of the 101st!!

Onward and Upward! Airborne! Tim Swain



**Jerry Bell**, C 2/327 e-mailed:

I received my magazine 7-17-98, it was everything I expected and more. You are to be commended on the start up of a great project. I will send some literature later that maybe you can use. People like you and David Cook are special people in the Airborne. I am sending addresses to more people of the 1st Brigade Separate, you are off to a great start and I am already looking forward to my next issue. The magazine was very professional and informative.

I am looking forward to the next reunion, hope to see you again before then. My phone is 931-285-2500 home or 901-925-0359 at the river on weekends. E-mail address jlbell@edge.net.

Airborne, Jerry Bell, C/2nd/Bn/327th



**Richard C. Schonberger** (2/327 VN) sent the following message about return to Viet Nam trips.

Based on ongoing interest, the 101st Airborne Division will be returning to Viet Nam from 10-24 April 1999. This will be the third time members have gone back, in a series of highly successful trips designed to retrace the Division's history in Viet Nam. The itinerary will include Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon), Cu Chi, Tay Ninh, Nha Trang, Tuy Hoa, Qui Nhon, An Khe, Pleiku, Kontum, Danang, China Beach, Hue-Phu Bai, the Ashau, the DMZ, and Hanoi. The cost of \$2995 includes international air and most in-country expenses. Space on these trips is limited. If you are interested, more information can be obtained from Global Spectrum, Viet Nam travel specialists. Global Spectrum can be contacted at 1-800-419-4446, by email at: gspectrum@gspectrum.com, or by FAX: 202-296-0815.



**Mike McFadden**, (2/502 A 6/66-6/67) 2864 Sloat Road, Pebble Beach, CA 93953, wrote, "Just as we seem to be flooded with bad news and events, along comes notification of your endeavor. Long overdue and in the hands of a capable person. If there is something I can do to help, please let me know. Mike McFadden - CO of A/2/502 and then following promotion S3/ASST S3 BDE HQS - 66/67. Best regards."



**William E. Schieman**, 1/327 HHQ VN 12/65-12/67 emailed:

Just a few questions about the magazine. Is the **Robert Finney** the same that served in the Special Forces prior to joining the 101st? I served with a Sgt Finney and remember his wife used to send cassette tapes to him and he let the rest of us listen to some of them. Also I arrived around Christmas 65 and departed Christmas 66. I was a clerk for the first six months then went into the Tiger Force, I took many pictures, and had at least 2 rolls of film stolen, I suspect from the mail clerk. I'm waiting to see if they get published in your magazine. Most were taken when we went to 2 POW camps looking for Americans. Enjoy the magazine so far. If I get brave I'll send some pictures. I no longer have the negatives so I would like them returned.

Editor's Note: Robert Finney is not on my mailing list. Can anyone help with this question?



**COL H. O. Lunde, USA, Ret.** wrote on 23 July 1998 with the following information:

I applaud and support the efforts you are making with the quarterly magazine, "The Diplomat and Warrior." Let me know if there is any way I can be of assistance.

I do have a couple of minor gripes. You have my name and period with the Brigade wrong. My name is: Col (Ret) Henrik (Hank) O. Lunde, 68 West King Street, Shippensburg, PA 17257.

I joined the Brigade as the Assistant S-3 in early December 1964 (about 6 months prior to deployment) and left in June 1966. The Brigade was involved in the Natchez Trace FTX when alerted for deployment to Vietnam. I was actually at the XVIII Airborne Corps Headquarters at Fort Bragg to help coordinate our possible participation in the evolving crisis in the Dominican Republic.

**Colonel Timothy** assigned the responsibility for writing the movement order and coordinating the move to Vietnam to the S-3 Section. **Major Hackworth** (who had joined the Brigade as S-3 a few days before Christmas 1964) assigned that responsibility to myself and a team of very capable individuals in the section. **SMAJ Grady Jones** was the key individual and my principal assistant on this task. The others in the S-3 section who were deeply involved in this project were: **Master Sergeant Billy Sullivan, Staff Sergeant Curtis W. Herdner, Captain John M. Sellers, and Second Lieutenant Joel S. Stephenson.** In addition, all assigned and earmarked units

provided project officers for the planning group and we were given a free hand to draw on the expertise and talents both within and outside the Division. The task of moving, as surreptitiously as possible, a unit of approximately 4,500 men with all equipment across a continent and then the Pacific into an hostile environment over 12,000 miles away were staggering. Our task was complicated by the fact our move was to remain classified until the deployment was announced in Washington, D.C. This restraint made telephone coordination very difficult and forced us to limit coordination to those offices which were absolutely essential. In spite of these difficulties, the plan to move the Brigade to Vietnam was completed and coordinate in less than three weeks. The movement of the main body of the Brigade, and its supplies and equipment to the West Coast was to be accomplished by commercial air and rail transport. Some of the heavier equipment and supplies were scheduled for shipment from ports in the southern part of the country such as New Orleans and Pensacola. The troops and their individual equipment, were to proceed from the West Coast by ship to Vietnam. In his book, "About Face" Hackworth states that this plan was later used as a model by the Infantry School at Fort Benning.

The plan called for the movement of several echelons of advanced parties to Vietnam to prepare the area for the arrival of the unit. On page 11 of your magazine you have a roster of the Advance Detachment of the Brigade which arrived in Vietnam on July 1. These were actually not the first troopers of the Brigade to arrive in Vietnam. A coordinating group left Ft. Campbell on 3 June on a four hour notice. The individuals in this group (as can be seen from the order I have attached) were: **Colonel Timothy, Lieutenant Colonel Kenneth G. Kuefler**, the designated Support Battalion Commander, **Major Hackworth, Captain Richard Meyer**, the Brigade Communications Officer, and myself. When I left the Brigade Hq. on the morning of 3 June I did not realize I would never again set foot in that building.

On the 9th of June our liaison team had an exit interview with the US Commander in Vietnam, **General William C. Westmoreland**. During the interview General Westmoreland told Colonel Timothy it would be advisable to leave a person behind to serve as a liaison between his headquarters and the Brigade. Since my orders had been cut with such an eventuality in mind, the choice was clear and it would be over a year before I returned to the US. Colonel Timothy gave me detailed instructions on what he expected me to do while waiting for the Brigade to arrive. Later, these instructions were expanded on in letters and messages.

I served as Assistant S-3 of the Brigade until 21 August when I assumed command of Troop B (Provisional) of Task Force Hansen. Troop B consisted of three "borrowed" Reconnaissance Platoons from the battalions and a small headquarters section borrowed from the Brigade Headquarters. Our mission was to secure and keep open Route 19 and provide escorts for the convoys of supplies and equipment for the 1st Air Cavalry Division from Qui Nhon to An Khe. **Tim Swain** was assigned as my executive officer. Lieutenant **George W. Burkheart** was one of my platoon leaders. He was

killed in action on September 3, 1965. He was the first officer from the 101st Airborne killed in combat in Vietnam.

When 2/502nd lost all three company commanders (1 killed, 2 wounded) during Operation Gibraltar, I was sent down to take command of A2/502. I kept that command until I returned to the States in the summer of 1966. I never had the privilege of serving with a finer and more professional group of troops during my three tours in Vietnam.

I provide you this rather lengthy story not only for the purpose correcting the spelling of my name and the period I served with the Brigade, but to let you know what my assignments were in case questions should arise as to any aspects of our deployment and early operations in VN. I kept rather extensive notes from those days and I still have them.

Best wishes on your project. H.O. Lunde, 23 July 1998, Tel: 717-530-5816, FAX: 717-530-5131, E-mail: hlunde@cvn.net

Editor's Note: I regret the misspelling of your name and thank you for the correction. The way material is received is, in the absence of other documentation, the only way I can use it.



**Command Sergeant Major Robert A. Young**, USA, Ret., sent a letter about his family visits in Missouri after the Omaha Reunion. He said he would try to locate some old 1st Brigade pictures. He closed with *Stay Alert - Stay Alive, Airborne Forever*,



**Doris E. Holder** East of Mt. Airy, NC wrote:

Thank you for this opportunity to receive this publication.

Could I please receive the issue you published in July 1998 as I received this invitation late. It would mean so much if I could.

I was married to **Stephen Gayle Holder** (deceased) for 24 years. We made several trips to the Airborne reunions before he died in 1992.

Steve was in the 1st Brigade, 101st and if I'm not mistaken the 320th Battalion.

My son and I would be most interested in anything we can learn.

I am very proud to have met, known and associated with members of the 101st. Also, to have been married to one for so many years.

I never see a Screaming Eagle emblem that I don't feel a great deal of pride.



COL Thomas H. Taylor, Ret., B 2/502 65 - 66, wrote:

Congrats for your kickoff of D & W. It's a good title, I suppose, because Diplomats and Warriors became our semi-official nickname but I'd take small issue with how it originated (page 21). Under COL Timothy we were known by our very apt call sign, Grand Nomad. No brigade traveled farther or more often than we did during that first six months -- or thereafter for that matter -- so much so that we didn't really have a permanent base camp till some concrete pads were poured in Phan Rang sometime in the spring of '66. And indeed we were the 1st Field Force fire brigade, another appropriate nickname, but I think we still favored Grand Nomads.

The change of command from Timothy to Pearson occurred around Tet of '66. It was Pearson who dubbed us Diplomats and Warriors. The village evacuation you cited was in the Tuy



*Ambassador to Viet Nam, General Maxwell D. Taylor, USA, Ret., talks with his son Tom during an inspection of the 101st Airborne Brigade in Vietnam. General Westmoreland is in the background.*

Hao area when Pearson was in command. In my opinion the nickname was not popular. We liked the warrior part but diplomats sounded a bit like sissies. I never heard a trooper sound off with "Diplomats and Warriors, sir!" when he saluted.

I wonder if the nickname is still used by today's 1st Bde? Perhaps now with peace making and peace keeping such a major mission the nickname is at last appropriate -- though 1st Bde was hardly diplomatic with the Iraqi army!

Enjoyed Duke Vasey's recollections about moving the bde around. I think he was the LT I didn't know but greatly admired for standing up to a BG Smith (MG Larson's deputy?) in Nha Trang during that sea lift to Qui Nhon. Smith, if that was his name, was a fearsome pee bringer who had nothing good to say about any unit. Apparently he felt the LST business was being mishandled and went into Vasey like a buzz saw. The LT was reported to have answered that until Smith was made Bde CO please not to give him orders -- or words to that effect, perhaps not as respectful.

Please feel free to excerpt from Where the Orange Blooms which, in telling Ben Cai Lam's story, follows the operations of the Grand Nomads from beginning to end.

Tom Taylor, B/2/502, '65-66



## CONGRESSMAN GRINDER'S VISIT

From: Headquarters U. S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam

released regionally thru: Public Information Office  
101st Airborne Division & Fort Campbell  
Fort Campbell, Kentucky

QUI NHON, VIETNAM (Delayed) -- Congressman George W. Grinder (D) from the 9th Congressional District, Memphis, Tenn, recently paid a visit to the U. S. Army's 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division near Qui Nhon. He was welcomed by the Brigade Commander, Colonel James S. Timothy and a thorough briefing followed concerning the mission and disposition of the paratroopers of the 101st. The military environment that confronted Congressman Grinder was not unfamiliar as he served with the U.S. Navy Submarine Service in World War II. He commanded the submarine that had the greatest number of kills of the war and he was highly decorated as a result.

The Congressman spent the remainder of the day visiting soldiers at the front. He talked at length with the paratroopers and let them know what a splendid job they are doing.

Congressman Grinder departed the 101st with the reassurance that the Screaming Eagles are dedicated to the cause of freedom and eager to give battle with the communist aggressors from the North.



*Congressman George W. Grinder, (D-Tenn) flies to an outpost of the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division near Qui Nhon. The Brigade executive officer, Lieutenant Colonel James R. Wilson was the Congressman's guide during his visit to the Screaming Eagles. (Photo by 101st PIO). from: Public Information Office 101st Airborne Division & Fort Campbell Fort Campbell, Kentucky delayed 30 November 1965*





# DOS AND DON'TS IN VIETNAM

By Sergeant Major Grady Jones, USA Ret.



Grady Jones (R) and Ivan Worrell at the 1st Brigade Picnic in May 1998. (Pallatin Photo)

Sgt Maj Grady Jones contributed the following article. It was written as the 1st Brigade was preparing to move to Viet Nam, in 1965 and was published in the March - April issue of "THE INFANTRY MAGAZINE" in 1966 under the title "Dos and Don'ts in Vietnam".

Grady left the 101st and attended Jungle Warfare School at Ft Bragg, and the Vietnamese Language School in California, in early 1963, before going to 'Nam in July '63. There he served in G3 and J-3 of the Vietnamese 22nd Infantry Division, and Vietnamese II Corps, as an advisor; up in The Highlands areas of Kontum, Pleiku, Dak To, etc. He also spent several months at the Vietnamese National Training Center on the coast near Saigon, close to Vung Tau (the French Riviera of Vietnam) advising basic and advance unit training to young Vietnamese troops.

Grady went back to Ft Campbell to S-3 of the First Brigade in July '64. When the 1st Brigade was alerted for 'Nam Grady wrote the below article. Grady also published a Vietnamese/English Language book for distribution within the Brigade.

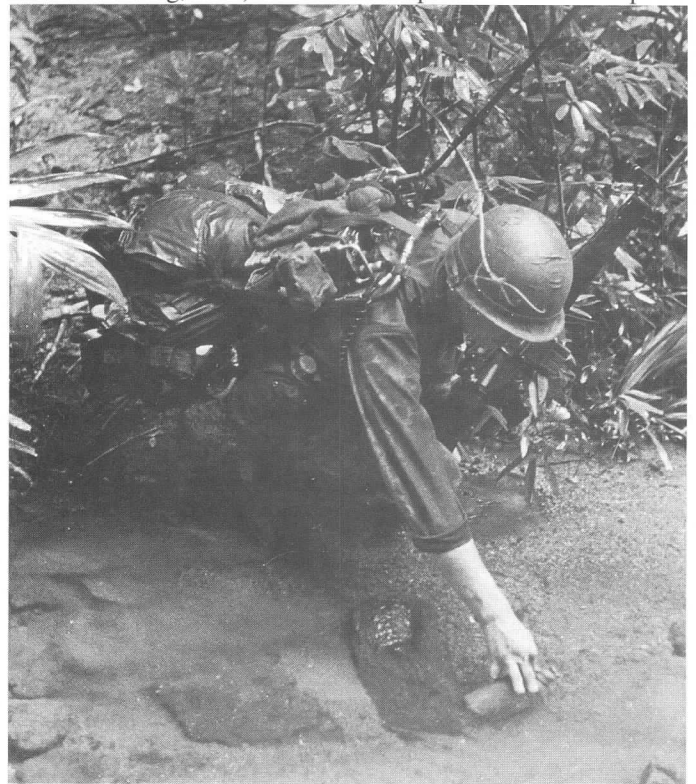
In 'Nam with the 1st Brigade G-3 (Separate Brigades were authorized a "G" Staff) Grady participated in every operation from Jul '65 - Jul '66, with Maj David Hackworth (now COL Ret), either on the ground or in the air with the Brigade Forward (Tactical) CP.

## GENERAL

### DO:

Be prepared for the unexpected./ Fill or resupply loads at every opportunity./ Treat any stranger as a possible enemy./ Keep your weapon immediately available and ready for use./ Practice the highest order of personal hygiene at all times./ Protect your personal property./ Maintain security at all times and report any violations or suspected violations./ Provide adequate air-ground and forward observer communications for all operations./ Maintain enemy contact once it is gained./ Avoid developing patterns in any and all operations./ Use your own combat support weapons before calling for outside support./ Use every available intelligence source in planning every oper-

ation./ Effect positive coordination with ARVN, Province, District and Special Forces units in your area./ Use hand and arm signals to conceal your presence whenever possible./ Always use discipline in small arms fire—a well aimed hit is worth more than 10 random shots./ Carry a large quantity of illumination ammunition when operating at night./ Consider combat efficiency over troop comfort./ During extended movement stop before dark to insure establishing a good, all-round, coordinated defense./ Be sure grenade igniters are screwed in tight and safety pins are properly crimped./ Police the battle area and destroy everything left behind—a rundown battery can still fire a booby trap./ Be alert to dead foliage, it may be old camouflage over booby traps, tunnel entrances or other positions./ Before placing reliance in native interpreters have them checked by a Vietnamese-speaking, qualified U. S. man./ Do practice land navigation constantly (compass use, pacing, dead reckoning, etc.)/ Test-fire weapons before each opera-



TUY HOA, VIETNAM (101st-IO) -- Taking advantage of a clear mountain stream a paratrooper Radio Telephone Operator of the 1st Battalion, 327th (Airborne) Infantry fills his canteen while on patrol during the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division's Operation Geronimo I.

(L123/11A) US Army Photo by 1/Lt. John Hensley

tion./ Carry bayonets on all operations to probe for mines and for use in combat./ Vary the meanings of smoke signals to deny the VC the ability to interpret./ Carry files or sharpening stones for machetes and axes when operating in jungle./ When using vehicles be sure they are equipped with tow cables./ Carry extra demolitions on all operations./ Develop supply brevity codes—situations often require the use of the command net for administration and supply purposes.

**DON'T:**

Become stereotyped in your actions./ Discuss anything classified over radios or telephones./ Permit horseplay at any time./ Abuse equipment; your life may depend on it./ Travel alone at anytime; use the buddy system./ Drink water except from an approved source./ Leave vehicles or equipment unattended at any time./ Trust children at any time; they may be VC agents./ Consider any route or area to be inaccessible to the enemy./ Neglect planning for civic action whenever possible./ Overclassify or use an unnecessarily high priority for electrically transmitted messages./ Call for helicopter medical evacuation until the casualty is near the landing zone./ Leave mines and flares in abandoned positions; the VC will salvage them for use against you./ Listen to, or pass on, rumors./ Panic or get



*TUY HOA, VIETNAM (101st-IO) -- Private First Class Johnny Vermillion of Grundy, Virginia, a member of the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division's Company "A", 326th Engineers removes punji stakes from the walls of a tunnel complex uncovered by the "Screaming Eagles" near Tuy Hoa.*

*US Army Photo by PFC Tim McGowen*

trigger-happy; wait until the VC closes on your position to insure his being killed./ Break seals on ammunition or other supplies until they are to be used.

**DEFENSE****DO:**

Use wire entanglements around your entire position./ Plan for the use of all available support fire./ Integrate mines, flares, and booby traps into defenses./ Record mine fields and remove them when you leave./ Be sure someone is always alert in each position./ Plan ambush patrols on likely avenues of approach outside the perimeter./ Plan for the use of illumination rounds./ Maintain all-around security./ Dig trenches and positions in a staggered manner to reduce the chance of the enemy using enfilade fire./ Bury electrical wiring to mines to prevent detection./ Provide patrols and listening posts beyond the perimeter./ Establish multiple communications means./ Disperse key personnel and facilities to lessen the chance of loss from single enemy rounds./ Maintain a reserve to repel and destroy penetrations./ Try to set up defense before dark./ Deny the VC any opportunity to remove casualties from the battlefield./ Vary times of relief for patrols and posts so as not to set a pat-

tern./ Use trip flares throughout the position./ Plan overhead cover on all possible positions.

**DON'T:**

Get complacent because of the lack of enemy action./ Fail to pass the plan to all interested parties./ Allow civilians in or near the perimeter or positions./ Fire illumination rounds at regular intervals.

**BASE CAMP****DO:**

Prepare protective shelters adjacent to sleeping areas which can be occupied quickly in the dark./ Use your mosquito net when sleeping./ Know your defense sector and that of the man on your left and right./ Use dismounted vehicle guides when operating under blackout./ Prepare to defend the camp; never drop your guard./ Plan for a reaction force to counter any enemy success./ Provide for alternate communications means./ Develop a good civic program in areas adjacent or near the base camp.

**DON'T:**

Allow civilians in the area./ Establish a routine; vary your modus operandi.

**CULTURAL****DO:**

Speak slowly and distinctly and avoid the use of slang. (Think of the difficulty of trying to explain the meaning of "I get a bang out of that")./ Try to learn and use Vietnamese./ Use a title of rank or the word "Mister" rather than call an individual by his first or last name./ Accept refreshments when visiting a Vietnamese./ Pay respects to all clergy by a slight nod of the head when you meet, including Buddhist Monks and Catholic Priests./ When in doubt, be sincerely courteous. Even if your gesture is not understood, the courtesy will be appreciated.

**DON'T:**

Summon a Vietnamese by gestures./ Prop your feet on a desk or table, put a leg over the arm of a chair, or sit cross-legged when talking with Vietnamese./ Make jokes about not being able to eat with chopsticks./ Enter anyone's home socially unless invited in./ Worry about time; be patient.

**SEARCH AND DESTROY OPERATIONS****DO:**

Use some form of encirclement when villages are encountered./ Have a rapid reaction force available to block enemy withdrawal, cover routes of withdrawal, provide a covering force, or to mop up./ Use hidden routes or darkness to conceal your approach./ Have air reconnaissance routes to and over the objective to keep the enemy from surprising you; however, care must be used not to reveal your intentions./ Be alert for snipers in unorthodox locations such as dung piles, gardens, haystacks, wells, etc./ Plan fires to cover the entire area of operations./ Withhold scheduled fires to the last moment so as not to reveal your intentions./ Reconnoiter landing zones for obstacles before using./ When possible have villagers precede you into



villages—they will avoid mines, booby traps, and obstacles./ Avoid being channelized by fences, hedges, punji traps, etc./ Be alert for, and destroy, all camouflaged tunnels, caves, and bunkers./ Leave stay-behind ambush patrols to ambush returning VC and those hidden underground and undetected.

**DON'T:**

Relax at anytime, especially on return from an operation./ Allow captured VC and civilians to mix./ Fail to question individuals out of sight and hearing of groups so they will talk without fear of reprisal./ Separate small children from their mothers./ Neglect searching every possible nook and cranny for booby traps, weapons, and possible intelligence information./ Throw grenades into mud or wooden buildings without having adequate cover.

### HELIBORNE OPERATIONS

**DO:**

Provide back-up spare aircraft to cover aborts./ Make detailed reconnaissance of all landing zones and objective areas whenever possible./ Provide a reaction force not more than 10 minutes from the objective./ Plan to use Air Force, Artillery, and aviation units to seal off the objective area. /Consider weather in all planning./ Select multiple landing zones when possible and use a deception plan to deny the enemy knowing the primary one./ Select landing zones which facilitate rapid decisive maneuver and prevent the VC from resting./ Plan suppressive fires on the landing zone to be executed at the last possible moment./ When multiple lifts to the same LZs are used plan to have the preceding lift clear the area so that succeeding lifts may have suppressive fires./ Provide an in-flight landing orientation for troops being carried./ Provide for medical evacuation./ Provide different routes for multiple lifts to the same LZ./ Provide for armed helicopter escort./ Provide medical evacuation pilots with unit frequencies to expedite their action.

**DON'T:**

Dispatch helicopters in less than pairs./ Fail to consider time needed for aircraft refueling.

### CONVOYS

**DO:**

Sand-bag vehicles./ Provide and maintain vehicle intervals at all times (minimum 100 meters)./ Consider any portion of the route as a potential ambush site./ Plan supporting fires along entire route./ Face personnel outward to permit immediate return of fire if attacked./ Have all personnel carry weapons at the ready at all times./ Lead out with the heaviest vehicles./ Whenever possible have air cover./ Provide an alert force to extricate any portion of the convoy attacked./ Avoid routine and repetition./ Keep movement times and dates secretive until the last possible moment./ Rehearse immediate action to be taken in case of attack./ Treat all strangers as enemy./ If fired on, immediately return fire, attempt to drive out of the killing zone, and attack the ambush force as soon as possible./ Coordinate with all agencies, area forces, and commands thru which the convoy will move./ Provide for escorts in addition to reaction forces./ Have effective communications with a backup

at all times./ Avoid identifying command and control vehicles.

**DON'T:**

Allow civilians (including children) to approach or get on any vehicle./ Leave vehicles or equipment unguarded at any time./ Emplace supporting weapons in the same location each day on succeeding convoy./ Relax at anytime, the VC may allow portions of whole convoys to pass in order to gain complete surprise./ Fail to check equipment readiness before moving out./ Allow a broken down vehicle to be left unprotected.

### PATROLS

**DO:**

Maintain front, flank, and rear security./ Move with stealth./ Make maximum reconnaissance before moving out./ Provide for a reaction force./ Maintain contact once gained./ Be alert for ambushes./ Plan for automatic weapons to be in the lead element./ Plan and react to cut off enemy escape routes./ Carry only essential supplies and equipment./ Preplan all available supporting fires./ Report enemy contact by the fastest available



*TUY HOA, VIETNAM (101ST-IO) -- 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry "Recondos" of the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division close in on a suspected enemy position during Operation Geronimo I. The hat in the tree was left by an enemy soldier who hastily departed the area to escape the "Screaming Eagles".*

*(L96-2) US Army Photo by Sp/4 Oddvar Breiland*

means./ Be alert for punji traps, mines, and booby traps./ Develop and use silent signals./ Use your own combat support means before calling for outside assistance./ Make initial moves from base camps under cover of darkness or by concealed routes./ When possible move on multiple and mutually supporting routes./ Check all personnel for physical fitness and proper equipment before moving out./ Have a planned succession of command./ Develop all possible intelligence on the area of operations./ Be prepared for sudden meeting engagements./ Plan in advance for medical evacuation.

**DON'T:**

Bunch up; present as small a target as possible./Talk, laugh, smoke, or use lights./ Travel exclusively on roads and trails./ Out-manuever your security forces./ Wear armored vests on prolonged ground operations./ Forget to coordinate with ARVN, Popular, Regional Forces, and Special Forces in the area.

## PERSONAL HYGIENE

### DO:

Bathe regularly and keep clean-shaven./ Treat every scratch or insect bite as a serious wound./ Change socks regularly and practice good foot care./ Keep your immunizations up to date./ Drink plenty of water and use salt tablets./ Take your malaria pills regularly.

### DON'T:

Dispose of human waste without covering it. /Eat anything



*TUY HOA, VIETNAM (101st-IO) -- During Operation Geronimo I near Tuy Hoa a paratrooper of "A" Company 1st Battalion, 327th (Airborne) Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division searches out an enemy base complex which consisted of 31 huts. Various enemy equipment was captured.*

*(L123/21) US Army Photo by 1/Lt. John Hensley*

unless you know its source./ Remain in the sun without outer garments for periods over 15 minutes./ Swim in unauthorized streams or ponds.

## AMBUSH PATROLS

### DO:

Have a single commander./ Insure every man knows his job./

Control noise, lights, and smoking at all times to prevent detection./ Provide sufficient firepower to cover the killing zone and escape routes./ Exploit and search immediately after springing the trap./ Select a site where enemy chances of escape are minimal./ Develop a simple pocket card checklist for all to use to insure the ambush is complete./ Rehearse the ambush whenever possible (sand tables can be used effectively)./ Prepare to react immediately to VC counter-ambush action./ Use simple, easily understood signals./ Keep civilians (including children) from observing movement to, or emplacement of the ambush./ Fire low, a ricochet is better than a miss./ Plan night ambushes to cover normal VC movement periods./ Use stay-behind ambushes to trap and destroy the VC when leaving an operational area./ Exploit surprise when engaging the VC./ Conduct a relentless pursuit./ Rotate units on local security missions to increase alertness.

### DON'T:

Spring the trap too early./ Fail to provide illumination for night ambushes./ Fail to mine and booby-trap escape routes./ Use the same site repeatedly.

## COUNTER AMBUSH

### DO:

Make a detailed reconnaissance by all available means before beginning any operation./ Provide front, flank, and rear security at all times./ Immediately return fire and attack the ambush force./ Provide a reaction force to flank or cut off the ambushing force./ Plan fires on all suspicious areas./ Provide for a succession of command in case the commander is trapped in the killing zone./ Use stealth to conceal time and routes of movements./ Have security forces perform detailed check-outs of all possible ambush sites./ Maintain continuous communication with all elements at all times./ Control noise so as not to telegraph your approach./ Practice immediate action drills to make reaction instinctive./ Vary formations to thwart VC plans./ Use white phosphorous grenades against the ambush party to inflict VC casualties and screen your assault.

### DON'T:

Bunch up at anytime./ Try to take cover in the killing zone./ Announce any movement or operation until the last possible moment./ Fail to report suspicious areas as they are approached./ Be baited by careless pursuit of the VC./ Fall to clear the entire ambush site once the ambush is overcome./ Forget to fire, even after the VC stops, to prevent his escape and recovery of weapons and bodies./ Consider normal civilian activity in an area as an indicator that it is clear—VC use civilians in cover and deception./ Consider anyplace to be free of possible ambush—the VC use the unorthodox as normal.



**BRIGADE COMMANDERS .....Page 1**  
**Brigadier General Willard Pearson** (Lieutenant General Retired) is featured in this issue. He is responsible for the use of the term **DIPLOMATS AND WARRIORS** and giving the name to the weekly brigade newspaper. The newspaper name was changed to **THE SCREAMING EAGLE IN 1967**. He was Commanding General of the Brigade from January 1966 - January 1967. This page was first published in **VIETNAM ODYSSEY**.

**AWARDS & REMEMBERING A FRIEND . .PAGES 2 & 3**  
One remembrance of a real friend, **Quint Sunday**, is taken from **THE SCREAMING EAGLE** (101st Airborne Division Association magazine) of May - June 1969. The awards shown here are all officers. These are the photos I have. All grades are represented on other pages featuring awards. The press release on page 3 should be of interest to those who arrived first in Viet Nam.

**1ST BRIGADE PRINT .....PAGE 4**  
An 18 x10 inch print depicts highlights of actions of the 1st Brigade during the 30 months the brigade was not assigned to the 101st Airborne Division. The print was sold at the 1st Brigade Reunion in May of 1998 and is now being offered by mail-order.

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION TO MAIL MATERIAL TO FRIENDS .....PAGE 5**  
This page is very important to the survival / success of this magazine. A circulation list of more than 500 is needed before the 1st of January 1999.

**MEDAL OF HONOR .....PAGE 6**  
**1ST Lieutenant James A. Gardner**, was the first 1st Brigade soldier to earn the Medal of Honor (posthumously) was featured in the July issue (page 6). The second 1st Brigade trooper to earn the Medal of Honor, also posthumously, was **Specialist Four Dale E. Wayrynen** who was assigned to Company B, 2/502. **SFC Webster Anderson** the third Medal of Honor recipient will be featured in the January 1999 issue.

**VIET NAM VALOR AWARDS .....PAGE 7**  
This is the second page of valor awards available in this format. The January issue will carry the last page. The **DIPLOMAT AND WARRIOR** files contain many copies of individual awards. Individual awards will be published in each issue.

**NEWS STORIES FROM NEWSPAPERS ... .PAGE 8 & 9**  
Although press material such as the story from the Clarksville Leaf Chronicle is not as readily available as Information Office press releases an effort will be made to include material printed about the Brigade along with material produced by the Information Office.

**RETURNED MAIL .....PAGE 9**  
The **DIPLOMAT AND WARRIOR** mailing list is considerably more accurate than it was in June. Please check the short list of mail returned in this issue, and review the same subject on page 29 - 33 is the July issue. We should find these lost 1st Brigade veterans. In the July issue 159 returned mail addresses were listed compared with eight in this issue.

**POETRY .....PAGE 10 AND 11**  
**Peter Griffin's** poem about the USNS GENERAL LEROY ELTINGE has a background image of the Viet Nam arrival of 1st Brigade troops. This drawing is part of the illustrations in **VIETNAM ODYSSEY**. Photos of Peter Griffin in Vietnam and at the Vietnam Wall follow his poem.

**KILLED IN ACTION & NON-BATTLE DEATHS .....PAGE 12**  
This page, planned for each issue of **THE DIPLOMAT AND WARRIOR**, was developed from material taken from a reliable data base.

**SUBSCRIBERS .....PAGE 13 - 16**  
More than 100 individuals have subscribed since the July magazine was published. Some address corrections have led to subscriptions.

**NEWS RELEASES .....PAGES 17 AND 32**  
These news releases, some without photos, record some of the Brigade history. These releases were mailed to Pacific Stars and Stripes. Army publications at Fort Campbell and Department of the Army and the home town newspapers of those who were pictured.

**THE DIPLOMAT AND WARRIOR, VIETNAM ISSUES .....PAGES 18 & 19**  
This magazine has a reproduction of **THE DIPLOMAT AND WARRIOR** published on October 28, 1966.

**BOOK REVIEW .....PAGE 20**  
SIX SILENT MEN is a great book about 1st Brigade LRRP combat and training. I hope you will read the review and then read the book.

**502ND DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS OF THE REGIMENT .....PAGE 21**  
The names were in the July issue but the photo did not appear.

**CAPS AND SHIRTS .....PAGE 21**  
New caps, t-shirts and golf shirts with full color logo.

**53RD ANNUAL REUNION 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION ASSOCIATION .....Page 22 & 23**  
1ST Brigade veterans were essential to this reunion.

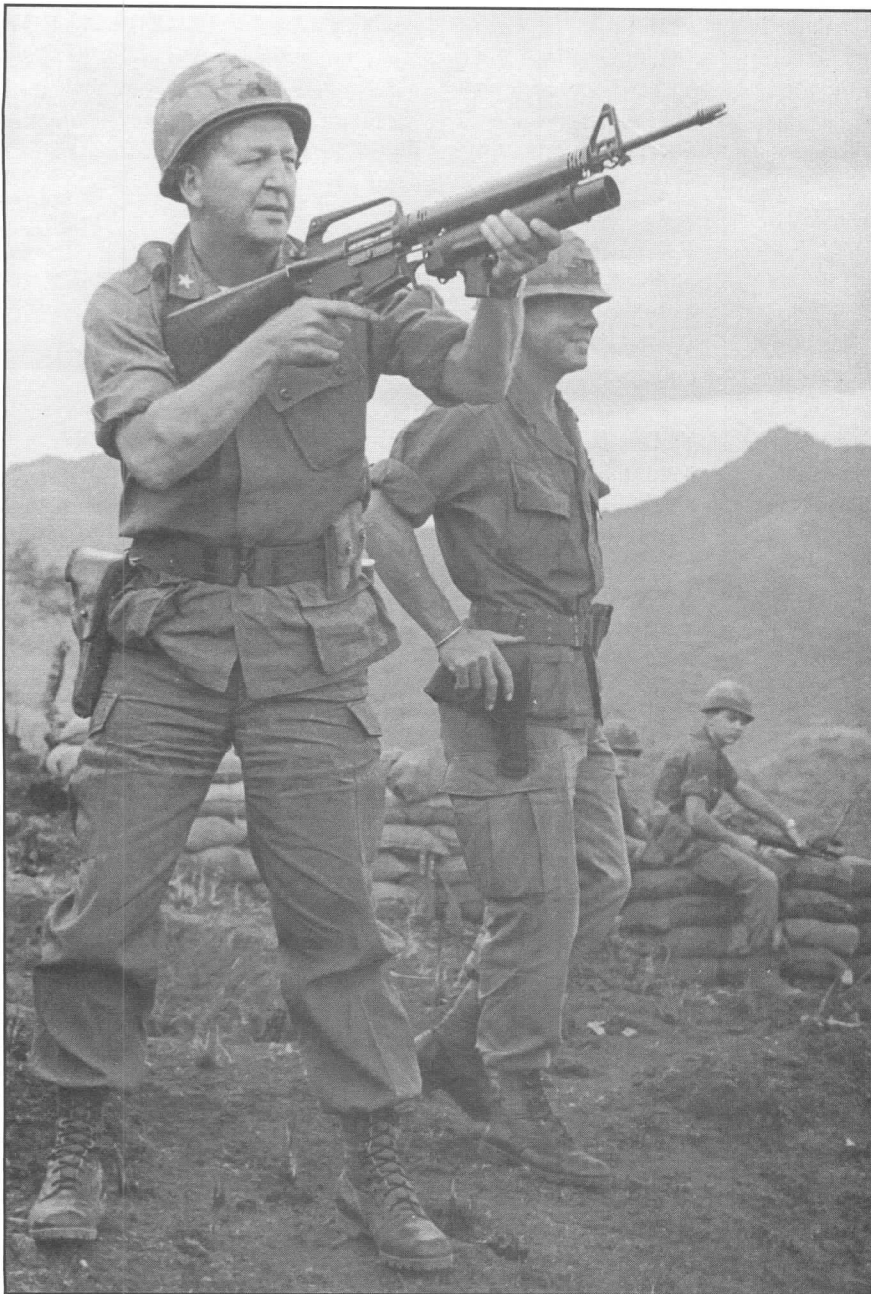
**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR .....PAGE 24 - 32**  
Many good letters were received. Most were used in this issue. The positive response to the magazine is encouraging.

**DOS AND DON'TS IN VIETNAM .....PAGE 33 - 36**  
Outstanding advice for operations in Viet Nam by **Operations Sergeant Grady Jones**. Photos from 1st Brigade operations have been added.

**DO NOT FORGET TO CHECK OUT THE 1ST BRIGADE (SEPARATE), DIPLOMAT AND WARRIOR WEB SITE AT [www.101stabndiv1stbrigade.com](http://www.101stabndiv1stbrigade.com)**







SONG MAO.....Brigadier General S. H. Matheson, Commanding General of the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, tries out a new XM-148 at "A" Battery, 2d Battalion, 320th (Airborne) Artillery's firing position in the mountains northeast of Phan Thiet. The new weapon is a combination of the M-16 and the M-79 grenade launcher being used by the "Screaming Eagles" on Operation Farragut. Captain Joseph Jenkins, "A" Battery Commander, from El Paso, Texas, observes the strike of an M-79 round.

(67-107-12) US Army Photo by 101-IO  
1st Bde, 101st Abn Div IO,  
APO 96347, Tel 109

Photo taken in March 1967.

GENERAL MATHESON WILL  
BE FEATURED IN THE NEXT  
(January) ISSUE OF THE  
DIPLOMAT AND WARRIOR



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