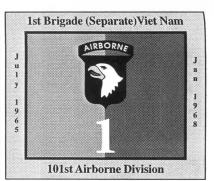
The First

THE 1ST BRIGADE (Separate) 101st AIRBORNE DIVISION in Viet Nam from July 1965 through January 1968



Published Quarterly January - April - July - October

Eagles in Viet Nam



Volume 5, Number 4

October 2003

The ALWAYS FIRST Brigade



Replacements. Waiting for space available. Phan Rang.

REPLACEMENTS

\$6.00

IRAQ: Reports from the combat zone indicate the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) is performing the mission in an exemplary manner. All the news I read or see and the e mails that report on the 101st Division and the Brigade show they are back in the "Diplomat and Warrior" mode that General Willard Pearson espoused as the 1st Brigade motto in Viet Nam in 1966. I was amazed that Senator Bill Frist (R TN) would publicly use his political clout as Senate Majority Leader to recommend the 101 be rotated home early. I do not believe the leaders of the Screaming Eagles would seek that type of help. Perhaps the political and commercial leaders of the Clarksville area would.

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2004 REUNION: I have written to COL (R) Gerald E. Morse [1/327 HQ 67 – 68] who was designated reunion chairman by General Matheson. Have had no response from COL Morse. Phone conversations with General Matheson indicate that he is working on the process of pinning down a place and time for the reunion in the fall of 2004 in the Phoenix, Arizona area. I said in the July issue that I would try to have a reunion date in this magazine, now I will try to have a date and place in the January issue.

Tom Willard [1/327 TF Medic 7/65 – 11/65] called yesterday to congratulate me on being selected as a DMOR. I had not heard from him in quite a while so it was good to reconnect. He is writing another book in his BLACK SABRE CHRONI-CLES about the great granddaughter of the Buffalo Soldier who established the series as a 101st Airborne Division trooper in Desert Storm. He is also working on a project, for the state of North Dakota, to collect personal stories of state veterans of all wars for inclusion in the state archives. If you have not read Tom's books you are missing some great stories. His book THE STONE PONIES was reviewed in the October 2001 magazine.

I remain behind in scanning and returning material to those who sent photos and text. The office that I occupied until a couple of months ago was on the ground floor (basement) of the Masonic Lodge building. We had more rain than I have seen in the 24 years I have lived in Sweetwater. The ground

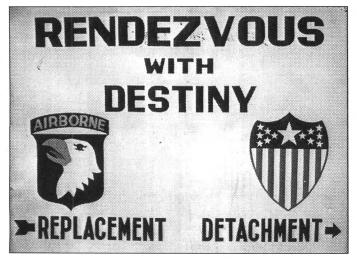


Photo sent by Ernest Bridgers (2/502 RECON 3/66-5/67) 604 Short Spoon Circle, Rocky Mount, NC 27804; (252) 446-0204.

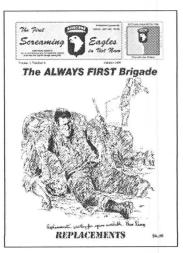


Major Ivan Worrell, Information Officer, 1st Brigade (S) 101st Airborne Division waits to board a caribou at some airstrip in Viet Nam. Note the implements of the public affairs trade — a briefcase and camera bag.

floor flooded. Water came in from the sides and up through drains and plumbing fixtures. After more than a week of drying material that was near the floor I found office space on the second floor of a downtown building that is the home of the International Order of Odd Fellows. I do not worry about water damage anymore but do have an added exercise factor in climbing steps.

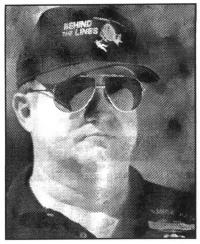
This cover art is the fourth in a series of six sketches given to me by U. S. Army artist Bill Dolan.

I was disappointed that family commitments prevented my attendance at the 101st Airborne Division reunion in August. Most Division reunions have a great number of 1st Brigade (S) veterans in attendance. I usually take a number of pictures for the magazine. This past reunion had to be represent-



ed by only one photo taken at the 327th/401st dinner. If you have photos from the reunion please send them.

I have noted a steady decline of the use of the 1st Brigade web page <101stabndiv1stbrigade.com> to search for friends and post general messages. If you have a message that should not wait for the next magazine to be published use the web site to get it circulated.



PHANTOM WARRIORS

PHANTOM WARRIORS LRRPs, LRPs, and Rangers in Vietnam

By: Gary A. Linderer Pages 116-130

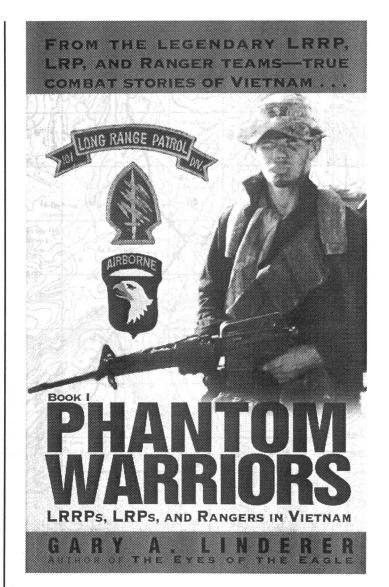
LRRP Detachment, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division

One of the first provisional LRRP units formed during the Vietnam War was the 1st Brigade LRRP Detachment of the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. They quickly earned a reputation for their ability to adapt to a multitude of assignments in a wide variety of AOs. From the very first, MACVs "fire brigade"—the name given to the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, the nomads of the Vietnam War—was sent anywhere a brushfire ignited throughout the country. It was always the 1st Brigade Screaming Eagles who got the call. And any time they landed, the brigade's LRRP detachment was on hand as the eyes and ears of the brigade.

During the escalation of the war in 1967, U.S. military forces conducted a number of successful operations in the II Corps and III Corps tactical zones. Unable to swing the momentum around in the central part of the country, the NVA and VC decided to focus their attention on the more distant northern provinces. They began exerting intensive pressure on the U.S. Army and Marine forces operating in the I Corps area. Unable to send additional divisions north to take some of the pressure off the beleaguered U.S. troops, MACV put together a collection of units under the name of Task Force Oregon and sent it north to lend a hand to the hard-pressed U.S. Marines and the 1st Cavalry Division. Comprised of the 196th Light Infantry Brigade, the 3d Brigade of the 25th Infantry Division, and the 1st Brigade of the 101st Airborne Division, along with attached support units, Task Force Oregon arrived just in time.

The 1st Brigade of the 101st Airborne Division settled into the area around Duc Pho. In the southern part of Quang Ngai Province, the area had long been under the control of the enemy. It quickly earned a reputation as a bad place to be. As the paratroopers combed the mountainous countryside and swept up the wide fertile valleys, looking to mix it up with the enemy, the brigade's provisional LRRP detachment began sending six-man reconnaissance patrols to locate the enemy units for the line doggies.

On 11 May 1967, the 1st Brigade launched phase one of Operation Malheur, a three-battalion incursion into the mountains west of Duc Pho that was designed to destroy the NVA/VC base camps hidden there. The day before the operation was slated to kick off, the brigade LRRP detachment received a warning order for three six-man recon teams to be inserted into the Song Ve Valley, just north of where Operation Malheur was going in the next day. The primary mission of the teams would be to look for NVA/VC base camps, trails, and caches in their



recon zone, and to be on the lookout for enemy forces infiltrating or exfiltrating through the area in response to Operation Malheur.

The warning order from brigade S-2 called for two recon teams under the command of staff sergeants Larry Beauchamp and Pappy Lynch to be inserted on the evening of 13 May, and a third, led by S.Sgt. Vincente Cruz, to go in at first light on the morning of 14 May. Cruz's team had a couple of last-minute changes, which always make a team leader nervous just before a mission. His senior RT0, Sp4. Rey Martinez, had to report to Cam Ranh Bay to take the written test for warrant officer flight training. Sp4. Elmer Kolarik was assigned to take Martinez's spot, and a new man to the LRRPs, PFC Sid Tolson, a seventeen-year-old U.S. Army paratrooper, was assigned the junior RTO slot. With a full third of his team—both RTOs—an unknown factor, Cruz was a bit worried. However, with S.Sgt. Larry Christian as senior scout, Sgt. Derby Jones as junior scout, and Sp4. David "Fireball" Dixon as the team medic, he still had a strong mix of veterans he could rely on in a pinch. On the afternoon of the thirteenth, Cruz, Jones, and Christian

flew out to the team's AO. After selecting primary and secondary LZs and PZs, the three LRRPs returned to Duc Pho to get ready for the mission going in the next morning. During the premission briefing, they had been told to keep an eye out for three missing LRRPs from the 3/25th. A Tropic Lightning long-range recon patrol had disappeared in the area six weeks before, and the reaction force that had gone into their RZ the next day had found only two bodies. That bit of news caused some worries among the veteran members of Cruz's patrol.

The "Minute Men" of the 176th Aviation Company were assigned to insert the three long-range recon patrols. The missions would be supported by UH-1Cs from the "Muskets" the gunship troop of the same aviation company.

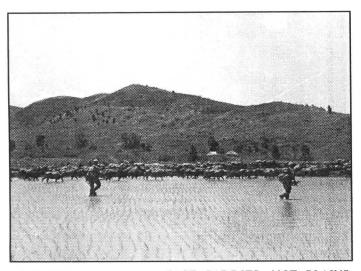
At last light on the evening of the thirteenth, the first two LRRP teams were inserted. Within minutes, Larry Beauchamp's team was in contact, killing two NVA, and had to be extracted. By the time they were resupplied with ammo, it was too late to reinsert the patrol, so it was decided to reinsert the team the next morning at a different spot right after Cruz's insertion went in.

Pappy Lynch's patrol also inserted on the thirteenth. They immediately moved into cover and went to ground for the night. Their AO had proved cold to that point in the mission.

The sun was just breaking over the eastern horizon when the slick bearing Cruz's team dropped from twenty-five hundred feet down to the treetops. The rest of the way into the AO would be nap of the earth, riding the contour of the rugged terrain.

Suddenly, the LZ was rushing up to meet them, and the six LRRPs were bailing out of the Huey and sprinting for the trees less than thirty meters away. As the Huey lifted out of the clearing and continued on, the sounds of its turbine fading in the distance, and the quick rush of the two gunships passed overhead on either side of the clearing, the LRRPs were alone.

However, the lonely feeling didn't last long. The sounds of



DUC PHO, Viet Nam – RICE PADDIES, NOT PLAINS. Paratroopers of the 101st Airborne drive a herd of cattle across a rice paddy during the "Old Chisholm Trail" phase of Operation Malheur II. The herd grew to 1,196 head before reaching the refugee camp at Nghia Hanh.

(67-445-2) US Army Photo by SP5 Tom Holzhauer, 221st Signal, 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div IO, APO 96347, Tel Strike fwd 99, Strike rear 109

voices shouting in Vietnamese, followed by a number of signal shots from not far away, alerted the LRRPs to the fact that their insertion had not gone unnoticed. They had landed in the center of an enemy base complex of unknown size.

Without waiting for instructions from Cruz, Kolarik was already on the horn to the C & C aircraft reporting that their LZ was full of "little people." At the edge of the trees in a poor defensive position, Cruz quickly realized that they couldn't stay where they were. With a large number of enemy soldiers around them, the LRRPs had to find a more defensible position quickly. They couldn't let the enemy get organized and come after them; the momentary advantage the LRRPs had gained through the element of surprise was already rapidly eroding.

Before moving out, Cruz sent Jones and Christian to conduct a short, circular recon around the team. The two men returned quickly to report that they had found a number of high-speed trails nearby, a large communications cable, and they had spotted a number of enemy soldiers working on bunkers not far away. Cruz realized instantly that they had only seconds to get out of the area. It was even too late to call for an extraction from the same LZ.

The helicopter had dropped them off in a large clearing on the floor of the valley. They would have to reach high ground to get out; low spots could be a deadly funnel for extraction aircraft if the enemy hidden in the hills around them was ready. Cruz signaled for Derby Jones to lead the team to high ground. The heavily laden LRRPs broke brush straight up the side of the mountain. They climbed for two hours, stopping only briefly to watch and to listen. The sounds of periodic signal shots behind them and the distant shouts in Vietnamese told them they were being pursued.

It was almost 0900 hours when the team received a quick message from the LRRP commo chief back at the TOC telling them that they were in the wrong AO. He was emphatic that they get to an LZ immediately, reiterating several times that the team needed to be extracted as soon as possible. The NCO then suggested that the team return to its original insertion LZ, but Cruz quickly nixed that idea. There was no way he was going to lead his team back into that death trap. He told the TOC that by then all of the suitable LZs in the area were probably covered, and the only choice was to climb to high ground. Cruz signed off, then instructed his point man to continue toward the top of the mountain.

The LRRP CO, 1st Lt. Dan McIsaac, who had been circling in the distance in the C & C aircraft, had discovered right after the insertion that the patrol had inadvertently been put down in the wrong LZ. The valley that the team had gone into had been slated for a massive B-52 Arc Light strike at 1300 hours, less than four hours away. Unfortunately, there was nothing he could do to divert or abort the bombing mission. The B-52s could not be turned back or diverted that late in their mission. With that in mind, he told the aircraft commander of the C & C ship to head back to the LRRP compound at Duc Pho. Once on the ground he grabbed up a thick coil of half-inch hemp rope and leaped back aboard the chopper.

When McIsaac was back out over the team's AO, he instructed the pilot to get down on the deck and circle the area ahead of the team. He soon found what he was looking for. Quickly, he radioed the team and told Cruz that there appeared to be a bomb crater on a knoll not far from the patrol's present location. The

officer then gave the patrol leader a bearing and told him not to waste time getting there.

When the team broke out of the jungle thirty minutes later, they found that the bomb crater was blocked by a single tree rising up from its center. Dixon quickly set a charge of C-4 explosives around the base of the tree and blew it down, opening up the crater. However, when the slick came in, it was immediately discovered that the hillside was too steep for the slick to get close enough to touch down. After several futile attempts to reach the patrol, some of which resulted in serious blade strikes, the aircraft was forced to pull away.

McIsaac quickly rigged the rope he had secured at Duc Pho to one of the D rings mounted in the floor of the chopper. Ordering the crew chief to hold on to his belt, McIsaac then wrapped the rope a single twist around his waist, then stepped out on the skid and lowered the remainder of the rope down to where the team was waiting in the bomb crater. Cruz selected Fireball Dixon to go out first.

The Huey rose up slowly with the LRRP medic hanging precariously from the end of the rope. Radioing ahead to Staff Sergeant Beauchamp's team, which had been reinserted to its AO right after Cruz's team had gone in, McIsaac instructed him to return to his LZ and secure it. He was going to drop off Cruz's team one by one at that location.

Fifteen minutes later, the Huey lowered the first LRRP to the LZ where Sgt. Larry Beauchamp's team waited. Soon, the helicopter returned and picked up PFC Tolson and headed back to Beauchamp's LZ.

In the meantime, a second slick rigged with a rope with a sling harness attached arrived on the scene and lifted out a third LRRP. In that fashion, the two aircraft soon had Cruz's entire team out of the danger area and linked up with Beauchamp's team. The job was completed with two hours to spare.

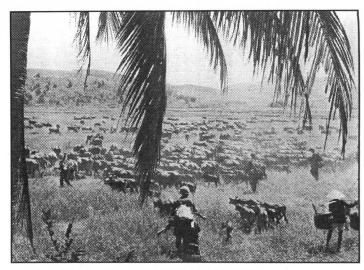
But the men of Beauchamp's team were upset with the whole situation because they felt that every NVA in their AO knew exactly where they were.

Meanwhile, another slick arrived with a pair of water bladders and some new maps. Cruz was instructed to load his team back aboard, switch maps, and prepare to insert into the same AO, but at a different LZ, one outside the B-52 strike zone.

McIsaac was furious. He requested that both teams be allowed to return to Duc Pho, regroup, and then be reoriented for new AOs. Their missions had been compromised and needed to be scrubbed. But instead of scrubbing the missions, brigade S-2 made the decision to keep both teams in. Beauchamp was ordered to move out of the LZ while Cruz's team was still on the ground drawing attention to themselves. A short time later, Cruz's team would be lifted out and reinserted at their original secondary LZ, where they would refill their canteens, bury the empty bladders, then begin their normally scheduled patrol. It was the recipe for a royal cluster fuck.

Beauchamp was anxious to put some distance between himself and his busy LZ. When, finally, he was given the okay to move out, he told his point man to "haul ass."

While Beauchamp's patrol was leaving contrails in the brush while moving away from the clearing, Cruz was orienting himself to the maps of his new AO. He was already feeling negative vibes about the amended patrol; they were having the kind of poor preparation that violated every tenet of long-range reconnaissance patrolling and usually got good people killed.



DUC PHO, Viet Nam – VIETNAM ROUNDUP. Paratroopers of the 101st Airborne move some of the 1,196 head of cattle and water buffalo up the Song Ve river valley during Operation MALHEUR II near here. Dubbed "The Chisholm Trail," the cattle drive to the refugee camp at Nghia Hanh was part of a sweep of the VC infested valley. The paratroopers also relocated 5,715 civilians.

(67-452-4) US Army Photo by SP5 Tom Holzhauer, 221st Signal

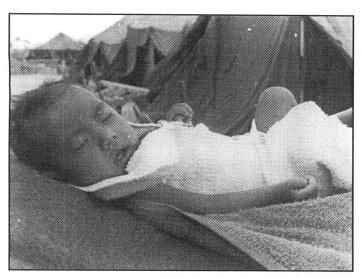
Finally, Cruz's helicopter lifted off the LZ and climbed for altitude then leveled out and headed for a new LZ a kilometer away on the same ridgeline. Coming in far too high, the pilot corkscrewed the aircraft down into an open meadow on the side of the mountain. Cruz knew immediately that every NVA in the area had just pinpointed their insertion.

The LRRPs should have remained aboard and aborted the mission, but someone was out of the chopper as soon as it touched down, and true to their code, everyone else followed close behind.

The team was on a slight, grass-covered knoll on the side of the mountain. Their only concealment was four- to six foothigh kunai grass, and there was no cover anywhere around them. In the distance, perhaps 250 or 300 meter away, Cruz could just make out a shallow, timbered rill that trailed down across the open slope of the mountain, eventually widening out into a deeper, narrow valley. The slopes on both sides of the valley were covered with chest-high kunai grass, and the only concealment at all was in the trees along the dry runoff channel. The smaller valley eventually opened out into a wider valley, and at their junction was a small village. All of that was easily visible from the team's vantage point. And if the LRRPs could

visible from the team's vantage point. And if the LRRPs could see everything down below, anyone down below could easily have spotted the American helicopter that had just dropped off six people on the high ground above.

By then, it was already growing late in the afternoon. According to their instructions, they were to drink their fill of water, top off their canteens, then bury the water bladders. Cruz had assumed that they would do all of this after they ran off the LZ and lay dog in the first cover they came to. Unfortunately, the only cover around was three hundred meters away. Signaling Jones to move out, the six-man patrol broke into a ground-eating trot toward the distant gully, lugging the water bladders with them.



DUC PHO Viet Nam – THEY CALLED HER BABE. This Vietnamese infant was abandoned by her mother in the jungle west of here and found by paratroopers of 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. For one night, she was loved and cared for by men she'll never know, who will never forget her.

(67-376-8) US Army Photo by SP4 Daniel Stroebel, 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div 1O, APO 96347, Tel Strike Fwd 99, Strike Rear 109

When they finally reached it, panting and soaked with sweat, they set up a security-wheel defensive position while Cruz established radio contact. He wasted little time telling McIsaac that their recon zone was a bad place to pull a reconnaissance patrol.

For the first time, Cruz had the opportunity to study his map, and what little faith he still had in the mission plan was erased by what he saw: if they were approached by enemy forces from any direction, they had absolutely no place to go. Someone in the rear who had never been out in the bush before had made a series of decisions that had just put his team in great jeopardy. Cruz wanted out.

But the morning's activities had cost the LRRPs. The air crews were frazzled, and the aircraft were back at Duc Pho being serviced and refueled. There were no other aircraft available at the time, and it was far too late in the day to do anything about it. McIsaac told Cruz to find a place to base up for the night, and he would be back at first light to pull the team. Cruz had no choice but to comply.

Cruz looked around to find the best place with cover and concealment, where they could hole up for the night. But it didn't take long to realize that they had no place to go. They were already in the dry creek bed, and it was the only place within fifteen hundred meters where there was any concealment at all. Unfortunately, there was no cover. Cruz suddenly felt like a flea on an elephant's ass.

Cruz had Jones lead them a little farther down the dry creek bed, where the vegetation was a little thicker. There, the team crawled up against one side of the bank and set up their defensive perimeter, leaning the two radios against the base of the single tree growing out of the weeds.

Cruz knew that they hadn't fooled anyone watching from down below. They were in a very bad situation that was most likely going to get worse. They would not even be able move out after dark to another location to throw off the enemy because there was simply no place else to go. Cruz was certain they had already been pinpointed by the enemy. Their only hope would depend on how badly the enemy forces in the area wanted to take them down.

At 2200 hours, a slow, steady rain began to fall, and it continued to fall until just before daybreak. It didn't keep anyone from sleeping, because under those conditions no one got much sleep. Cruz kept two men on at a time all night long, and had everyone awake thirty minutes before daybreak. They had heard nothing unusual during the night.

In the eerie silence of the false dawn, Cruz whispered for each patrol member to take turns easing the "night round" out of the chamber of his weapon and replacing it with a fresh one—just in case the first one had sweated and frozen in the chamber during the night

When it was light enough to see, the LRRPs breathed a collective sigh of relief. They had passed the danger time. The NVA had not hit them at first light. It wouldn't be long before the choppers arrived and pulled them out, and the stupid fiasco would come to an end.

The LRRPs had scattered out in the brush, not wanting to make a tempting target if they were hit during the night or at first light. Tolson was seated high up on the bank, with Kolarik sitting to his front and slightly below him. Cruz was to Tolson's right and a little farther back in the grass.

To his right were Christian and Jones, in that order. Dixon was down level with the creek bed and fidgeting around a little. Everyone was sitting with their backs to the grass-covered creek bank.

Suddenly, Dixon stood up and signaled Cruz that he was going out of the perimeter to answer nature's call. Cruz signaled back for him to do a short area recon while he was out there. Taking only his weapon and his LBE, Dixon slipped outside the perimeter and moved slowly away to the left.

The rain had stopped a short time before, and everything was still and deathly quiet. The metallic sound of a rifle bolt being racked back, then pushed deliberately forward, suddenly broke the silence. Everyone froze. After what seemed like minutes, but was probably only seconds, Derby Jones shouted, "Hit it," at the same time rolling hard to his left.

The deafening, ripping sounds of two dozen automatic weapons filled the shallow creek bed with stinging lead. The grass and scattered trees were pulverized amid the madly blinking muzzle flashes and choking smoke. Jones continued rolling until he came up at the base of a thick shrub with a natural shield of large rocks around it. The rocks saved his life. A dozen rounds followed him under the bush but bounced harmlessly off the mantle of rocks.

At the sound of the bolt sliding home, Cruz was rolling and bringing up his rifle even before Jones hollered, "Hit it!" But before he could fire a round, a bullet slammed into the right side of his chest, collapsed his lung, and blew out an even larger hole exiting his back. Flat on his back without a weapon Cruz flipped over and began crawling rapidly through the grass, reaching cover but not before taking two more rounds in the back.

Somehow, Kolarik survived the opening volley. He had actually managed to grab a frag from his LBE, pull the pin, and toss it down into the creek bed where the enemy fire was com-

ing from. As he released the grenade and twisted around to hit the deck, he caught a round through the back of his right shoulder that shattered the joint, then tore down through his arm before exiting. With his right arm useless, he, too crawled clumsily through the grass trying to escape the withering fire.

Tolson had been sitting up high when he heard the bolt let go. He froze until the shooting started and was reaching to the right for his weapon when he felt the sledgehammer blow of a round hitting him in the face. The bullet smashed into the young LRRP just below the right eye, went through the roof of his mouth, down through his tongue, and blew out the left side of his jaw. Mercifully, the impact of the bullet to his head knocked him out. Unfortunately, his unconsciousness didn't last long. Tolson came to a minute later, just as a grenade went off right next to him, perforating him with shrapnel. A fragment pierced the cornea of his right eye. His head was swelling from the hydrostatic shock of the bullet, and he was struggling to keep from choking on the bone and blood he was swallowing. Using what little vision he still had from his left eye, he began to crawl through the grass to get away from the enemy fire.

Dixon was already thirty feet outside the perimeter looking for a place to "do his business." He was facing down into the ravine when he spotted the enemy soldiers set up in an L-shaped ambush along the dry creek bed. He was trying to turn to warn the rest of the team when he heard the bolt rack back in the AK-47. Before he could utter a sound, two rounds slammed into his head, killing him instantly.

Amazingly, Christian and Jones were not hit in the opening volley. While the NVA were reloading, the two LRRPs began putting out a tremendous amount of fire, trying to suppress the enemy ambush. Each man emptied ten full magazines apiece into the creek bed and followed it up with a hail of grenades. It bought them time.

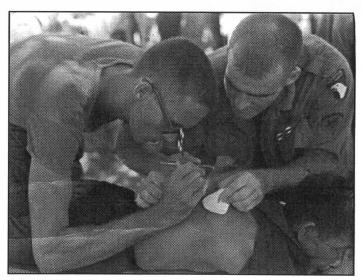
While Jones and Christian fought for their lives, Kolarik, Tolson, and Cruz lay moaning back in the grass. Cruz could barely draw a breath, but he had enough composure to shout for Kolarik to get the radio. He knew that it was their only chance of salvation.

Kolarik had only the use of one arm, but it was enough for him to grab a Prick-25 radio. He crawled out to where he had left his ruck and saw that the spot was right in the middle of the impact area for all the incoming rounds. Without giving it any more thought than that, he crawled out amid the devastation and destruction to retrieve the radio.

Back in the grass, he quickly discovered that the handset had been shot through, rendering the radio useless. With the handset cord severed, he could not transmit an outgoing message. Leaving his radio behind, Kolarik once again crawled out into the grass and recovered Tolson's bullet-riddled radio. He made it back to his spot in the grass to the sound of bullets pinging off the ground around him. As quickly as he could with a single usable arm, Kolarik changed Tolson's handset to his own radio, then called the rear to report the contact and beg for help.

Cruz's moaning had attracted additional enemy fire. Soon he, was hit twice more in the legs. In horrible pain, he waited help-lessly to die.

About ten minutes into the fight, the NVA began regrouping, forming up in a horseshoe to try to close in. During a particularly savage exchange of fire, Tolson took two more rounds, in the back.



DUC PHO, RVN—SKILLED HANDS. Spec. 4 Robert Allman, Baltimore, and Spec. 5 David A. Barmettler, Omaha, 101st Airborne medics, lance a large cyst which afflicted this elderly Vietnamese woman for more than 40 years. The two Americans treated more than 100 persons near here. (USA Photo by Spec. 4 James Lohr)

Kolarik, exposing himself to use the radio, drew heavy fire from several enemy weapons, catching a round in his one good arm, but not before he reached the rear and reported their predicament. Help was on the way.

The enemy had successfully maneuvered around until they were on the three uphill sides of the LRRP perimeter. They were now trying to push them down the creek bed. Jones and Christian were together on the right side of the perimeter, and they had a good angle on the creek bed where the base of the NVA's L-shaped ambush lay. The two LRRPs were making the NVA pay a hell of a price for the trap they had set.

Suddenly, a Chicom grenade arced out of the creek bed and landed at Jones' feet. He rolled to his left and tucked into a tight ball, but it wasn't enough to protect him from the deadly shrapnel that pierced his crotch area and his thighs.

Man, I can't get hurt, he thought, that will leave only Christian!

Pulling a white-phosphorous grenade from his rucksack, he pulled the pin, let it cook off for a two-count, then tossed it at the spot in the grass where the Chicom frag had just come from. The hollow explosion resulted in a series of screams and moans coming from the spot where the frag exploded.

Jones and Christian continued to fire and maneuver as they struggled to make the NVA believe that more than two of them had survived the ambush. Tossing out frags and firing their weapons, the two LRRPs fought like a dozen men. Jones secured his cut-down M-79 and began popping the deadly HE rounds directly into the ambush site, frequently shooting into the trees above the creek trying to get air bursts. It worked!

After about ten minutes, the NVA fire began to die down. Jones knew that they had taken some heavy licks, and they were running very low on ammo. But if they could only hang on a little longer!

Suddenly, he heard someone screaming for Fireball, the team medic. He knew that if Fireball wasn't taking care of the wounded then he must have also been hit. For the first time, Jones realized that most of the teammates were down and needed emergency medical help immediately. Leaving the remainder of the NVA temporarily to Christian's gentle touch, Jones crawled back down to what had once been the team's perimeter and recovered Dixon's aid bag. Only twenty-five feet away, the surviving NVA picked up their fire when they spotted the LRRP scrambling back into the grass, but he made it back without being hit.

While Christian continued to hold the enemy at bay, Jones worked frantically to keep his comrades alive. Using nearly everything in the aid bag, he tried his best to dress the multitude of terrible wounds. There was very little he could do for Tolson's shattered face. If he'd tried to bind the broken jaw, the young LRRP would have suffocated. During the time Jones worked over the wounded, enemy rounds continued to pour in, but there was far less fire than before, and its accuracy had gone to hell.

After exhausting the rest of the medical supplies, Jones gave the three men what encouragement he could, then turned and crawled out into the grass to look for Dixon. Slipping up the creek toward the end of the ambush, Jones quickly located Dixon's body stretched out in the grass. Ducking enemy fire, he struggled to drag his dead friend back into the shattered perimeter.

Reaching the spot where be had left the wounded, he draped Dixon's body around the sole surviving radio. During the remainder of the battle, the slain LRRP absorbed several rounds that would have destroyed the radio.

While Kolarik continued monitoring the radio, Jones collected the rest of the ammo and grenades from the rucksacks and web gear of the wounded and tossed them over to Christian, who had just about run dry himself.

The gunships arrived a short time later. Jones had stretched an orange panel out in the grass to mark the edge of the team's perimeter. Guiding in on the fluorescent panel, the gunship attacked the remaining NVA, forcing them to break contact and flee for cover.

For all practical purposes, the battle was over. The NVA had failed to finish off a very successful ambush. They had not counted on the ferocity of the small American recon team. Jones and Christian, and the three critically wounded LRRPs hung on until a reaction force from Charlie Company 1/327th arrived. With them was the LRRP detachment commanding officer, 1st Lt. Dan McIsaac. He had joined the reaction force up on the ridgeline after it had touched down.

After the battle, Sgt. Derby Jones was put in for a Distinguished Service Cross for his actions that day. By some cruel twist of military politics and basic incompetence, the award was downgraded to a Silver Star. S.Sgt. Larry Christian also received a Silver Star. Somehow, the awards just didn't seem appropriate to the jobs they had done.

First Brigade (S) Viet Nam Tour March 2004

The world situation, SARS concerns, and weakened economy that led us to postpone the September tour have abated, and we expect the improved conditions will encourage those of you who are interested to join in our planned return to Viet Nam in March. By returning to Viet Nam with a knowledgeable, professional travel company, I look forward to seeing Viet Nam under totally different circumstances than my 1966-1967, all expense paid, visit there. This tour will combine the history of the U.S. in Viet Nam with a taste of Vietnamese history and culture while revisiting the diverse beauty and geography of the country.

I am sponsoring a comprehensive tour of Viet Nam in MARCH OF 2004 with emphasis on the 1st Brigade areas of operations. The land, or in-country portion, will cost \$1,950 that covers most expenses while in Viet Nam. Round trip airfare to Viet Nam from the West Coast is estimated to be in the \$1,200.00 range in March 2004, subject to airfares at the time of reservation. Domestic connecting flight costs will vary based on where you are coming from. Twelve is the minimum number needed to make the tour a go. Less than 12 would require a surcharge.

The tour leader will be Richard Schonberger who is a veteran of the First Brigade (S) and has led more than 10 tours to Viet Nam. He will include as many 1st Brigade sites of interest as possible in the March 8 - 24, 2004, visit to Viet Nam. Global Spectrum of Falls Church, Virginia, is the tour company with which Dick Schonberger is affiliated, so we will have the services of a 1st Brigade veteran who has been organizing and leading tours to Viet Nam since 1996, along with the support of an established tour company with a long record of satisfied customers, including the recently concluded Sons Daughters in Touch (SDIT) tour of Viet Nam.

The 1st Brigade tour will include visits to Ho Chi Minh City, Cu Chi, Tay Ninh, Nui Ba Den, Mekong Delta, Kontum, Dak To, Pleiku/Camp Enari/Catecka Tea Plantation, An Khe, Qui Nhon, Tuy Hoa, Nha Trang, Marble Mountain, China Beach, Hoi An, Hue, DMZ/Camp Evans, Hanoi and Ha Long Bay. Extensions to other SE Asia destinations can be arranged for those desiring them. If you are interested in signing up for the trip contact me using the *magazine address or* contact Dick Schonberger c/o Global Spectrum, 5683 Columbia Pike, Suite 101, Falls Church, Virginia 22041, Phone 800-419-4446, gspectrum@gspectrum.com. Please notify us of your intent to participate by submitting a reservation form and tour deposit NLT 14 November 2003.

I hope you can join us on this exciting Return to Viet Nam Tour.

Ivan Worrell Editor and Publisher







LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The First SCREAMING EAGLES in Viet Nam P.O. Box 675 Sweetwater, TN 37874-0675

MESSAGES FROM THE 101stabndiv1stbrigade.com WEB SITE GUEST BOOK

+ GEORGE ABREGO, 326 MED D 1/66-3/67 9126 Thomas York Blvd., San Antonio, TX 78251-4112 ABREGO G @SWBELL.NET

Served with the 326 Medical BN. at Ft Campbell with CO. C. Then served in Viet Nam from JAN 66 to MARCH of 67. To all my Medic Brothers Welcome Home. Airborne All The Way.

MIKE GEIGER, Co B 502 Inf 66-67 Fort Worth, Texas m.d.geiger@sbcglobal.net

Great web page. I was a member of 1st Brigade B Co. 502 Inf 1966 - 1967 RVN

+ JIM GOULD, 2/502 HHC Recon 4/66-3/67 PO Box 1870, Hobe Sound, FL 33475-1870 (813) 980-0953 jghawk3@hotmail.com

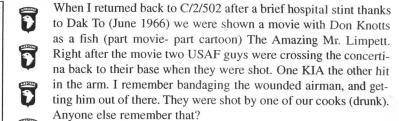
Recon 2 /502, 101st Airborne Vietnam 1965-1971

There will be a reunion for all men that served in Recon 2/502 in Vietnam from July 1965-Jan 1972. Strike Force associates and friends of these men also invited. The reunion will be in conjunction with the Florida Vietnam Veterans reunion to be held April 23-25, 2004 in Melbourne FL. Please contact Jim Brinker, 10 Luther Lane, Dudley, MA 01571 Phone (508) 943-6936 E-mail <bri>derinker101@charter.net> for registration information. Help is needed on collecting names and addresses of all Recondos

+ PETER T. RAMIREZ, 2/320 Arty B Bty 7/65-7/66 1771 Smoketree Drive, El Centro, CA 92243-4130 (760) 353-0659 ramirez@icoe.k12.ca.us

Looking for former B Battery, 320th Artillery men who served during 1965-66.

+ MIKE BALDINGER, 2/502 C 12/65-12/66 54 B St., Keyser, WV 26726 (304) 788-1461 Supergrover@mindspring.com



+ WILLIAM (BILL) GUNTER, 2/502 B 1/67-5/67 27721 Falkirk, Mission Viejo, CA 92691 W (949) 360-2923 H (949) 364-1653 tailgunter@cox.net

Received my Screaming Eagle Newsletter today. Just wanted to say what a great job you folks are doing. Take care, Bill Gunter Co B, 2/502d Inf, 3d Platoon, 1/67-5/67

ARTY CLASPELL, 2/502 HHC 10/66-10/67 2436 Glasgo Rd., Griswold, CT 06351 W (860) 312-3180 H (860) 376-2490 arty 0426@aol.com

Looking for these veterans, Tom Hall, B/2/502----Ihon Turner, A/2/502-66-67

Editor's Note: Can anyone help? I have neither in my database.

TAMMY HIRES THOMPSON Madison, Florida pinetta6@shareinet.net

I was hoping that I could find some of the soldiers who knew my dad. He was in Co.B 2/502 Inf. 101st Airborne Division in 1966. His name was Leroy Hires. If any one knew him could you please e-mail me. I would love to hear about my dad, he died before I really got to know him.

+ FRANK DOYLE, 326 ENGR A 3/66-3/67 545 Bay Green Drive, Arnold, MD 21012-2043 W (410) 757-6587 H (410) 757-4229 fdoyle44@aol.com

Looking for John Simucnic, Co. A 326 Engr. Just found Bossman Reyes. Also looking for Sharron and Big McIntyre.

Editor's Note: The only one in my database is John Simunic. 326 ENGR A 1/66-9/66, 1209 State St. Bay City, MI 48706-3670. He is not a subscriber, hope this helps. Can anyone help with the others?

DAVE BRONSON Michigan dave101tlhs@yahoo.com

> Outstanding web site and already a favorite site and linked to my web page, Screaming Eagles Through Time. Hope you will stop by!

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AUTHOLINE P

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STEVE STANDRIDGE, 1/327 TF 10/67-10/68 4528 Winding River Circle, Stockton, CA 95219-6518 W (209) 483-6506 H (209) 957-8786 stevestandridge@sbcglobal.net

I served with the 1st Bde from Oct 67 to Oct 68. 101 MP's, Tiger Force, D Co.

E-MAIL MESSAGES

+ THOMAS J. HORNER, JR., 2/502 A 7/67-10/67 340 Taylor St. NE, Apt. 33P, Washington, DC 20017-1534 (202) 529-3562 ttomttom12@yahoo.com

Ivan I'd like to thank you on your handling of the 1st Brigade Separate's paper. I would like to know if there is a way to check for members in your unit (A Company 2/502) during my unexpectedly interrupted tour, if so please advise me.

P.S. Sorry no pictures but I was honored to have served in the best unit in this man's army.

Editor's Note: Send me the names of those you are looking for and I will send you any information I may have about them.

Subject: Black Panther's Helmet DALE WIESE, 176th AHC, '67 – '68, Minuteman 230, "Oregon Taxi" Location Unknown Mm230@aol.com

After 36 years of stewardship of a sacred possession, the rightful owner has been found.

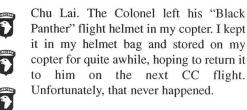
In 1967, I was the Crew Chief with 176th AHC. My UH-1D, named the "Oregon Taxi," assisted in supporting

three (3) Battalions of the 1st Brigade of the 101st, 1/327, 2/327 and 2/502. The AO at that time was Que Son, Happy Valley's, Tam Ky and points west.

Many occasions we conducted CC (Command and Control) mission with Company and Brigade Commanders. 2/327th was Col. Yerks, [LTG(R) Robert G. Yerks, 2/327 CO 67-68] "Greyhound" and 1/327 was Col. Abood [COL(R) Edmond P. Abood, 1/327 CO 67] "Black Panther."

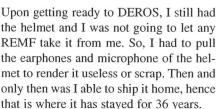
In these past 36 years, Col Abood has always stayed in memory. I never had the opportunity to personally meet the man, only fly him and his staff on CC flights and into battle. Although, this man left a deep and impressing impact on me, for many years. Col. Abood worked closely with his young LT's and SSgt in the thick of battle, to boxing on the beaches of Chu Lai.

It was approximately July '67, Col Abood's last flight with me, just before the 1st Brigade was pulled from the field and sent to



I was later assigned to the 5th Special Forces and Prairie Fire missions out of Khe Sahn and Long Vei. I believe during

that time the 1st Brigade was reassigned further north, possibly Camp Evans.





After attending my first reunion in 2000, I am now ready for another closure and give up my sacred possession, "Black Panther's" flight helmet to the rightful owner, Col Edmund Abood.

I have sent him his helmet, my sacred possession, but his memory is what really matters to me. I still see him in the Screaming Eagles newspaper, squaring off with his troops, letting anyone take the first swing. I can still hear him teaching, counseling, collaborating, and encouraging the troops on the ground in the thick of battle. Col. Abood's leadership was unique and will always be with me.

I wish Col. About and the complete 1st Brigade the best and long happy lives.

The 1st Brigade truly had "The Best." (NFS)

Sincerely and Thanks to All of you, Dale Wiese, CE, 176th AHC, Minuteman 230, "Oregon Taxi"

Editor's Note: Neither Colonel Abood nor General Yerks are subscribers. Hope they get the word about their story.

+ CSM (RET) Joseph M. Bossi, 2/327 HHC 6/66-7/67 2231 Pendleton Drive, Clarksville, TN 37042-5618 W (615) 860-2026; H (931) 431-3657 jmbossi@commandnet.net



On Memorial Day 2003 CSM (RET) Joseph M. Bossi [2/327 HHC 6/66 – 7/67] was the guest speaker in West Newton and Sutersville PA. He said "It was a great honor as these are the small towns that I grew up in before joining the Army."

+PETER T. RAMIREZ, 2/320 Arty B 7/65-7/66 1771 Smoketree Drive, El Centro, CA 92243 (760) 353-0659 • ramirez@icoe.k12.ca.us

It was my pleasure to post my name on 1st Brigade site. You may send correspondence to Peter T. Ramirez, 1771 Smoketree Drive, El Centro, California 92243.

I am very much interested in the brigade's 2004 reunion. Perhaps I can bring fellow 101st buddy, Frank Esquerra, along. Frank and I served with B Battery, 320th Artillery. Frank mustered out in April 1966 and I rotated in July 22, 1966. I was sent to the 82nd.

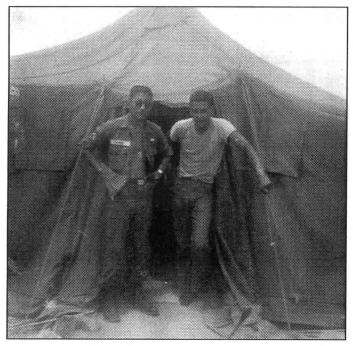
Frank and I had a reunion of our own in 1995 after 29 years. We saw the sun go down and we saw the sun come up, just shooting the bull and reminiscing. Esquerra, orginally from Parker, AZ, now lives in Yuma, a one hour drive from El Centro.

Frank and I are looking for three buddies, Joe Cantu, Albert Lea, Minnesota, George Dillard from Mission Texas, and San Juan Marquez from Stockton, California.

Ivan, I look forward to hearing from you again. Also, I would like to become a subscriber to the quarterly magazine.

Editor's Note: Cantu and Dillard were in my database, although not subscribers. Address information was furnished.

Ramirez sent the following photos.



Frank Esquerra (right), Parker, AZ and me at our base camp in Phan Rang. Shortly after this photo was taken we flew out to Bien Hua and then to Ben Cat and the Iron Triangle. (Nov 1965)



PFC PETER T. RAMIREZ (front) of Brawley, Callifornia, searches the shelled ruins of a Viet Cong hideout for weapons while Set Robert J. Turpon, of Montreal, Canada, stands guard at rear exit. Both mer are with "B" Company, 2nd Barcalion, 327th Infantry, of the U.S. Army's 1st Brazade, 10st Airborne Division, (U.S. Army Photo by Spé Max Tanser)

This photo was taken while we were in on a search and destroy operation outside Qui Nhon in October 1965. I was the RTO for the forward observer team from B Battery, 2nd Battalion, 320th Artillery assigned to the 327th Infantry. The FO team was comprised of 2nd Lt. Kenneth Taylor and Sgt E-5 Thomas Sturdevant.



Whitetree, Cullen and Peter Ramirez, RTOs outside the 2nd Bn, 327th Infantry Hqtrs somewhere in the Qui Nhon area. Whitetree and Cullen were RTOs with 320th Artillery Hqtrs & Hqtrs Battery. Me, B Battery, 320th Arty. (October 1965)

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TOM JOYCE, 1/327 A 4/65-7/66 143 Barron St., Friedens, PA 15541 (814) 443-0658 eagleone@shol.com

Dear Ivan, How have you been? I am sorry I haven't resubscribed as yet, funds are a little low. But I will get to it.

A friend of mine was going through his The Always First Brigade magazine and came across an article that was submitted to you from James Perchka. The article was "1st Brigade Engages In Their First Major Battle Since Arrival." (July 1999 issue, page 1)

No one knows the origin of the article. Here are the facts. I have an original copy of that article. It was written by the "Stars and Stripes" in September. The machine gunner is me (SP4 Thomas R. Joyce) and my assistant gunner (Ashely Stetson). We were in the 3rd Platoon of A Co 1/327th.

Thought I would pass that along.



COMPANY RELIEF MISSION – Company A, 1st Bn, 327th Infantry, loading aboard "choppers" to catch 75-100 Viet Cong on Burkheart Hill.

Subject: Fwd: arty's picture

PAUL E. GRIMES, 2/502 HHC S-4 12/66-7/67 2 Arnold Way, Verona, NJ 07044 W (212) 318-2218 H (973) 239-8396 PGRIMES@bloomberg.net



Ivan, I happened upon this picture I had blown up from original slides I had taken. I believe it is three members of the mortar plt. assigned to our 2/502nd about to set up our FOA in DucPho. Anyway will appreciate it if anyone can ID any of these guys. ALL the BEST and AIRBORNE all the way!

Sincerely,

Paul Grimes

S-4-TAC CP/ HHC 2/502 - Dec. 66-Jul67

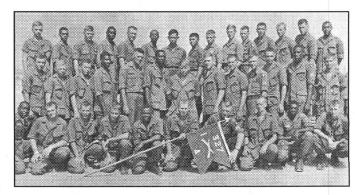
Editor's Note: This material was sent by Paul a very long time ago and got sidetracked. I hope someone can identify some of those in the photo.

Subject: 327th/401st Regimental Dinner 08.14.03 Reno, NV JIM SIMCHERA yankeej@cyou.com



Brothers, The attached picture is of (L to R) John Lee representing the City of San Mateo/Linda Paterson & ASA. Next to him is CSM (Ret) Joe Bossi Honorary SGT. MAJ. 327th INF and LTC (Ret) Larry Redmond 101st Div Assoc. 327th/401st Governor. This picture was taken at the Reno Reunion at the 327th/401st Regimental Dinner by Eli Haggins. No Slack & Above The Rest! Yankee Jim

MICHAEL KELLER, 1/327 A 1/67-5/67 5410 Duxford Place, Burke, VA 22015 (703) 323-9190 tmkeller@bellatlantic.net



I was Platoon leader of First Platoon, Co A from Jan until June (shortly after Mother's Day Hill). I have a copy of the platoon photograph taken sometime in Jan-March.

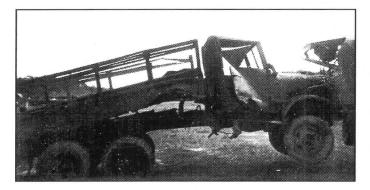
TO THE

From: Ivan Worrell worrell@usit.net
To: + RICHARD B. PRESTON, 326 MED D 7/65-7/66
714 Farmington Road West, Accokeek, MD 20607-9728
(301) 292-7513
temaki@comcast.net

Richard, thanks, again, for the photo of the truck at Ben Cat and the news clip. I plan to use them, I do need to know more about the photo of the truck. Anything you can remember about the incident, who was involved, the unit casualties and any other particulars that will identify what happened.

Thanks for your interest and input.

Ivan



From: + RICHARD B. PRESTON <temaki@comcast.net>
To: <worrell@usit.net>

I wish I could tell you more, it was on the move talked about in the Vietnam Odyssey on or about December 10th or 11th . The truck was not US, but was in the convoy and our job was to take care of any units in the convoy, the back of my picture is all the information I have (a truck that was blown up in a convoy from Ben Hoa to Ben Cat, 4kia 8inj Dec 1965) I was assigned to so many units for support I have a hard time with places and dates. I was assigned/attached to just about all the Brigade Companys for Medical support. I was used as a medic, driver, infantry, go for, replacement for anyone that they needed, I went on blocking missions (Task Force Hansen) replacement help (Operation Hawthorne). I have a question -- my 1st Sgt was Paul Grimsley, he had two or three combat jumps, glider wings, four purple hearts was with 187th on their big jumps in Korea. I would like to find out what happened to him. I can't find anything that he was even alive. Well got to go have a good day hope that helps.

Editor's Note: Can anyone help with Grimsley? He is not in my database.

Subject: Sacramento Memorial Day

+ JAMES A. WILSON, 2/327 B 9/66-8/67 2538 Alder Glen Dr., Lodi, CA 95242-4601 (209) 368-4910 spider6b@comcast.net

B/2/327 had a small gathering at the California Viet Nam Veterans Memorial on Sunday May 25th. The Memorial is on the capitol grounds and is really a beautiful structure, I would recommend

anyone visiting Sacramento or the area to go see it. In attendance were Ray Millard, Lou McDonald, Don Bowers, Ken Claypoole, Wade Hansen, Bill Porter, Adam Dunnway and Jim Wilson. The wives in attendance were Carolyn Millard, Lista McDonald, Vonnie Hansen and Judy Wilson. Wade Hansen flew in from Minnesota to be with us and it was quite a treat for us as we had not seen Wade since 67. After spending some time at the memorial, we proceeded across the street to the Hyatt for a brunch fit for Kings, the food was excellent, as well as the service. Ray Millard led the brunch off with a memorial champagne toast to our fallen brothers and to those who couldn't be with us. After the brunch, we retired to a room provided by the Hyatt, to view some slides and continue our fellowship. It is of course always a special time when we can get together and remember old times, but this year was very special as we also were thinking about the kids in Iraq and hoping for their safe return. We had a great time as usual, when the boys from Company B get together. -- No Slack for now Jim Wilson.

Brothers,

AUTODAY

The following have been designated as Distinguished Members of the Regiment. The names were announced at the 327th Regimental Dinner Thursday night in Reno. The official ceremony has not been scheduled but will be held at Ft. Campbell when the Division returns: Congratulations to the recipients of this honor.

NS/ATR! Yankee Jim

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- 1. Marion MOUSE Hammond
- 2. + Lew Percy, 1/327 C 4/65-7/66
- 3. + Terry Wren, 2/327 A 4/67-2/68
- 4. + Richard Luttrell, 2/327 A 4/67-3/68
- 5. + MAJ(R) Ivan Worrell, 1st ABN Battle Group 327th INF, C Co & HHC, 1956-57
- 6. Charles Dyke, 2/327 HHC 65-66
- 7. + MG(R) Jerry White, 1/327 A 7/66-7/67
- 8. John Hughes, 1/327 TF 7/65-66
- 9. Gary Bridges
- 10 George A. Joulwan, VN 71-72
- 11. Pedro Rosado
- 12. Guy Lepretree
- Robert E. Jones, 1st ABN Battle Group 327th INF, HHC Co, 1957-60
- 14. Charles Fitzpatrick

Editor's Note: I have added information to those who are in my database. Being selected as a Distinguished Member of the 327th Infantry Regiment is a real honor. I regret, very much, that I could not be present at the 327 Dinner when the announcement was made. I am well aware that I join a very extraordinary list of Distinguished Members of the 327th Infantry Regiment and will attempt to uphold the standards set by those who were previously selected.

D

Editor's note: Following is most of the correspondence between me, CPT Justin Cook at Fort Campbell and the Brigade Adjutant in Iraq. A copy of the July 2003 issue of the magazine was sent to Corporal Hector L. Ruiz By first class mail.

Althorne

----Original Message----

From: Ivan Worrell [mailto:worrell@usit.net] Sent: Wednesday, July 23, 2003 11:25 AM

To: CPT Cook

Cc: CSM (RET) Joseph M. Bossi Subject: Outstanding Soldier

Dear CPT Cook,

I am the editor and publisher of the quarterly magazine THE FIRST SCREAMING EAGLES IN VIET NAM. The magazine is devoted to the history of the 1st Brigade during the 26 months we operated as a separate brigade before the remainder of the division deployed to Viet Nam.

Major General (R) Jerry White who served in the 1/327 as a Captain has asked that I send a subscription, for one year, to a deserving soldier of the First Brigade.

Would you furnish me with the name, grade, and address of a soldier from the 1/327 who could be the recipient of this gift from GEN White. When I receive the information I will send him or her a copy of the July 03 issue by first class mail and inform GEN White that I have fulfilled his request.

Thanks, in advance, for your help!

Ivan Worrell

"Cook, Justin CPT" wrote:

Sir,

Attached is the email I received from the S1 in Iraq nominating a good soldier. Thanks and let me know if you need anything.

CPT Cook

Subject: Magazine Subscription from MG (RET) White

Date: Fri, 1 Aug 2003 09:06:16 -0500 From: daniel.rogne@us.army.mil

To: "Cook, Justin CPT" <cookj4@campbell.army.mil>

CPT Cook, Sir,

The name of the most deserving soldier in 1st Battalion, 327th IN REGT for the one year free magazine subscription is Corporal Hector L. Ruiz of A Co. He is the team leader that led the remainder of the ambushed squad back through the ambush area and meanwhile evacuated the dead and wounded. He is truly deserving of this as he took the responsibility of squad leader without question or waiver. Besides, CSM Stall said that is who he would give the subscription to. Thank You for your support and passage of information from Fort Campbell.

Bastogne, Above the Rest.

DANIEL J. ROGNE, 1LT, IN, Battalion Adjutant

----Original Message----

From: Ivan Worrell [mailto:worrell@usit.net] Sent: Friday, August 01, 2003 1:54 PM

To: Cook, Justin CPT

Subject: Re: Outstanding Soldier

CPT Cook,

Would you please send me the correct mailing address for CPL Ruiz?

Ivan Worrell

RE: Outstanding Soldier

Date: Fri, 1 Aug 2003 14:10:02 -0500

From: "Cook, Justin CPT" <cookj4@campbell.army.mil>

To: worrell@usit.net

Yes Sir, here it is:

Corporal Hector L. Ruiz

A Co, 1-327 IN

Unit # 96018

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APO AE 09325-6018

FROM THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE

+ DALE N. WAGNER, 2/17 CAV A Trp 5/66-6/67,

PO Box 7720, Reno, NV 89510-7720;

W (775) 688-4000; H (775) 852-9419 when renewing his magazine subscription wrote: Thank you very much for the reminder.

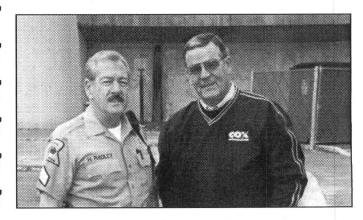
I DO NOT want to miss any issues!!

Please use the extra for someone who can't afford to subscribe.

I really do look forward to each issue and save them for the future. My son likes to read about what he missed.

+ STEVE BUSS, 2/502 B 7/65-2/66, 76 Scott Rd., Cumberland, RI 02864-2808; W (401) 641-0742; H (401) 333-0733; stebu50@cox.net wrote: B Co., 2/502 July 1965-February 1966. I observed Harold Radley's article in January's Letter's to the Editor. I contacted him and we got together for a short time at the Cumberland County Sheriffs Department in Fayetteville where he is presently employed. I thought it would be nice to meet my team leader after 37 years (believe it or not). Rad hasn't changed a bit.

I retired from the Rhode Island State Police after 23 years of service and am presently working in the communications industry. I'd like to hear from any other members of the 3rd Platoon (B Company). STRIKE FORCE



Enclosed is a photo of Sgt. Radley (left) and me taken in January 2003 (Don't we look great).



ATTOO IN

+ DAVID J. MARKHAM, 1/327 C 10/66-10/67, 3410 Adelaide Drive, Erie, PA 16510-2102; (814) 899-7252

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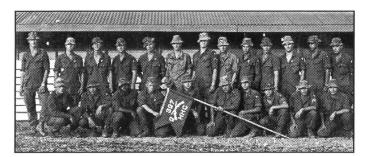
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ALLIO RAT

wrote: Sorry you had to remind me. Of course I need to renew, it's the best magazine going.

+ ROBERT M. STONEBURNER, 2/327 HHC 6/67-6/68, 789 James Rd., Fortson, GA 31808-7039; (706) 324-5085 along with his subscription renewal sent this picture of the Hawk Recon Plt 1st Bde HHC 2/327 taken at the Phan Rang base camp sometime late in '67. He had not seen anything on the Hawks in the magazine and thought this might be of interest.



Hawk Recon Platoon 1967-68

Standing: left to right, Young, Donaldson, Metcalfe, Robinson, Longhner, Fallon, Mullin, Parizek, Roberts, Lenske, Pearson, Lewis, Davison.

Kneeling: left to right, Stoneburner, Silvia, Smith, Bridgers, Steelman, Pinaud, Birkholz, Kazowski, Dean, Hutchinson

Phan Rang – Viet Nam HHC 2/327 Inf 1st Bde 101st Abn Div

+ CSM(R) BOB KREIDER, 2/320 FA HQ 7/68-11/68, 845 Johnson Ave., Gallatin, TN 37066-3523; W (615) 452-0590; H (615) 452-0900 along with his magazine subscription renewal wrote that he was the first Honorary CSM of 320th Arty Regt at Fort Campbell.

+ JAMES A. WILSON, 2/327 B 9/66-8/67, 2538 Alder Glen Dr., Lodi, CA 95242-4601; (209) 368-4910; spider6b@comcast.net sent the following with his magazine subscription renewal: Thought I would send these pictures to you. On May 25th several of us from B Company 2nd 327th got together in Sacramento at the California Viet Nam Veterans Memorial for our left coast stand down. On the back of the pictures are the names of the attendees with one shot of the wives who attended.

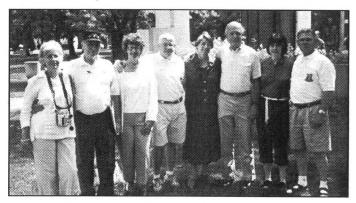
We had a great reunion at the memorial and a champagne brunch at the Hyatt across the street from the capitol grounds. Wade Hansen flew in from Minnesota to be with us, we had not seen Wade since 1967.

We are hooking up with more of our B/2/327 guys every week or so it seems.

Furgeson is running scared by now I think, although he still claims B Company will have to buy drinks again in 2004. Keep up the good work, we really appreciate what you're doing.



Front row (L to R): Ken Claypoole, Lou McDonald, Jim Wilson. Back row (L to R): Bill Porter, Wade Hansen, Adam Dunnaway, Don Bowers, Ray Millard.



Couples (L to R): Lista and Lou McDonald, Judy and Jim Wilson, Carolyn and Ray Millard, Vonnie and Wade Hansen.

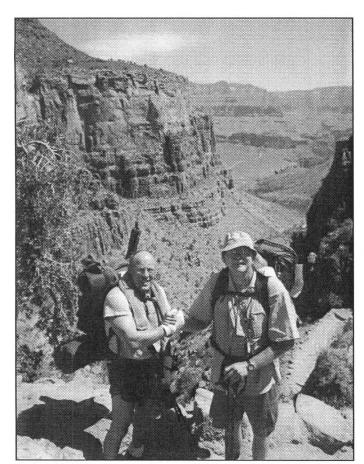
+ LTC(R) JOHN J. DORSEY, 2/327 A 6/66-5/67, 6407 W. Kitsap Dr., Spokane, WA 99208; W (406) 728-1034; H (509) 467-6228 wrote: This check is to renew my subscription for another year. Use the rest to help with your work. Thanks for a great publication.

+ JAMES P. BRINKER, 2/502 E 12/69-11/70, 10 Luther Lane, Dudley, MA 01571, W (508) 856-6245; H (508) 943-6936 along with his subscription renewal wrote:

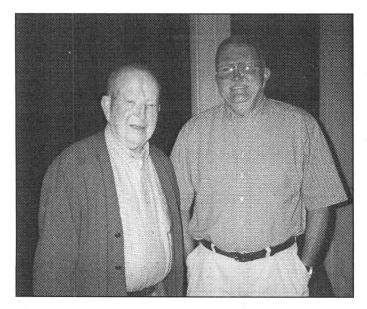
Jim Gould, myself and a few others have started plans for a reunion of all of Recon 2/502 from July 65 to Jan 72. The event will be held April 22-April 25, 2004 at Holiday Inn Beach Resort in Melbourne, FL, in conjunction with Florida Vets reunion. More details will be coming. We are seeking help and ideas on this endeavor--History, Scrapbook, Biography's, etc. Right now we need the names and addresses of all men. Please help us out. Please send any information to Jim Brinker, 10 Luther Lane, Dudley, MA 01571 or email: brinker101@charter.net. Please if using E-mail make sure title of message is Recon. I have a tendency not to open E-mail unless I know what message is about.

+MIKE MCFADDEN, 2/502 A 6/66-6/67, 2864 Sloat Road, Pebble Beach, CA 93953-2627; (831) 375-7762 wrote: Enclosed are two pictures which I hope are suitable for publication.

Big John Mooneyham (Plt Ldr and XO A/2/502 66-67) recently journeyed west from GA and we hiked the Grand Canyon rim-torim. Two old "grunts" discovered that we could still "hump a



ruck!" The biggest obstacle was 120 degree heat on the Canyon floor. Breathtaking scenery was second only to the outstanding fellowship. Picture of John and me nearing the top of the north rim on our way up. John is the big one! We have our sights set on Mt. Whitney in 2004 and would welcome any comrades.



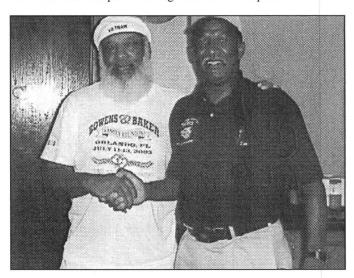
Picture of Gen Matt and John was taken when the Gen and Pat joined us for a meal the evening before we departed.

Your efforts in behalf of THE BDE are appreciated.

Airborne/Strike Force, Michael McFadden

+ COL(R) GERARD LANDRY, 2/502 A 7/64-7/66, 6240 Split Creek Lane, Alexandria, VA 22312; work (703) 692-8780; home (703) 751-2487 along with his subscription renewal wrote: Sorry to be late with this (again)! Hope all is well and that the rolls of those joining "The First Screaming Eagles in Viet Nam" continues to grow!

+ DONALD SINGLETON, 2/502 HHC&B 7/66-2/68, 217 Cartertown Rd., NAM Dr., Richmond Hill, GA 31324-3053; (912) 756-7319 sent this picture along with his subscription renewal.



This weekend, July 12, 2003, I spent time with Capt Reeves (Lucius V. Reeves, 2/502 B 63-66, 4114 Sugar Palm Ter., Oviedo, FL 32765-8078; (407) 977-1933), my CO in Viet Nam with B and HHC 2/502. It was a great day – last seen 35 years ago. He lives in Florida outside of Orlando.

+ JAMES W. GEARY, SPT BN A 7/65-1/66, P.O. Box 337, Upper Sandusky, OH 43351-0337 wrote when becoming a subscriber: Enclosed please find three items. First, my completed membership application, for record keeping purposes, my principal unit during my Vietnam service was with the Support Battalion – however, during portions of my time "In Country" I was on detached service with the 2/502nd and 1/327th. Secondly, I'm including a copy of the "Ode to the Infantryman in RVN." Finally, I'm sending along a copy of a news clipping that appeared in the Buffalo (NY) Evening News, which an uncle had saved for me. Buffalo was my home-of-record when I entered the service. No need to return any of these items.

My wife and I are presently living in an apartment. We also have a storage unit. I'm hoping to locate some items (e.g., photographs, etc.), in storage at some point. If there appears to be anything of potential interest from my days with the 1st Bde, I'll send a copy along for possible inclusion in The First Screaming Eagles in Viet Nam.

In the meantime, I'll be meeting with another First Screaming Eagle on July 4th. I'll pass along the extra information you sent me. He's even more of a recluse than I am – but maybe he'll follow my lead in joining the organization.

THE OFFI

ATTION OF

Sept. 16, 1965 BUFFALO EVENING NEWS



'Screaming Eagles' Are Hobbled

SAIGON, Sept. 16—Men of the "Screaming Eagles" 101st Airborne Division have been fighting Viet Cong guerrillas under an added handicap. Their boots just fall apart because of the steaming dampness in the jungle. Brig. Gen. John Norton, deputy U. S. comman-

der in Viet Nam, said some boots are being airlifted in. Replacing the all-weather leather boots are footwear with heavy canvas uppers and leech-proof drainholes to get rid of the water which constantly soaks jungle fighters' feet. (UPI)

"ODE TO THE INFANTRYMAN IN RVN"

I lie in my tent Thanking God for free rent While outside the rain pours And inside my buddy snores Muddy floors and a wet cot But still thanking God a lot.

Got hot chow every day
Rain or shine, come what may,
Got a dog 'bout two weeks old
Eat C-rations hot or cold
Special Forces all around
Keeping safe this hallowed ground
1st Cav in the air
Landing, fighting here and there.

Ain't got much but could be worse Just ask the men in the 101st.

--By an anonymous Signal Corpsman in Nha Trang, Republic of Vietnam. (From the Vietnam Reporter, October 1965). Quoted in Colonel David H. Hackworth's, About Face (NY: Simon & Schuster, 1989).

LATE MAIL

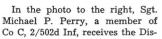
Michael McFadden, [2/502 A 6/66-6/67] sent this: A separate message from that answering your questions about John Mooneyham. Your request arrived just as Shelley and I are preparing to depart for our annual visit to family and friends on the east coast, as well as the 9/22 gathering to honor "Gunslinger" at the Arlington gravesite on the anniversary of his death. This year's activities will include a meeting of A/2/502 Comrades in MA to present Jack Tamulevich (Tammy) with his recognition as a Distinguished Member of The Regiment. Glenn Hoppert and Ed Reddin (DMORs) were to jointly conduct the ceremony before family and friends in Brant Rock. Just days ago we learned that Glenn has been diagnosed with a malignant tumor in his lower bowel and will undergo surgery on 9/10. His presence at the ceremony will be missed and our prayers are with both he and Donna. I hope to visit Glenn during his post-op recovery.

Airborne - Strike Force. Michael McFadden

WITH THE 101 IN VIETNAM

It has been announced that Gen. William C. Westmoreland, CG, MACV, will return home in June to be U. S. Army Chief of Staff. The Screaming Eagle extends a hearty "Well Done" to Gen. Westmoreland and wishes him all success in his new and most important assignment for our country.

THOMAS A





tinguished Service Cross from Gen. Westmoreland in a ceremony at Bien Hoa. Sgt. Perry was cited for exceptional valor as a squad leader during the 1st Bde's Operation Wheeler, west of Tam Ky, on Sept. 29, 1967, in which his actions resulted in the elimination of 9 enemy bunkers, 18 VC killed, and numerous weapons captured. Said Sgt. Perry, "I was only trying to do my job." Gen. Creighton Abrams, Deputy CG, MACV, presented the Silver Star to 1st Sgt. Alexander Maka, Co C, 1/501 Inf, for gallantry in action near Hai Lang when his platoon leader was wounded and company commander killed. 1st Sgt. Maka is on his third VN tour.

Editor's Note: From The Screaming Eagle magazine, May – June 1968 page seven. I have Michael P. Perry [2/502 C 5/67-5/68] who was an initial subscriber and received his last magazine in 6/2000. His address is P.O. Box 1733, Valrico, FL 33595-1733.

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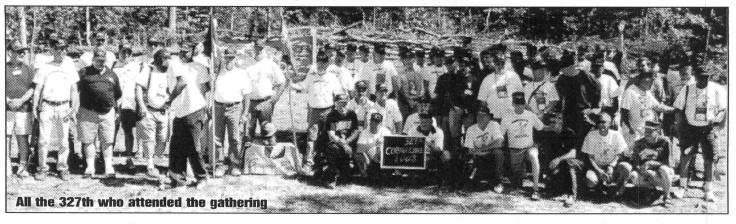
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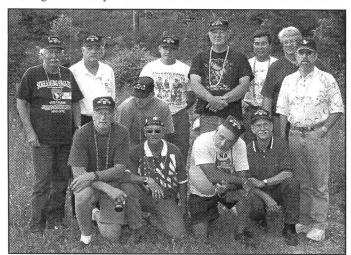
STIO PA

COBRA LAKE



+ COL(R) LARRY A. REDMOND, 2/327 A 5/67-2/68 336 Crystal River Dr., Kissimmee, FL 34759-5212 (863) 427-3727 • A327NoSlack@aol.com

I am not an expert on Crossville but as I understand it the gathering started as a C 1-327 66-67 era reunion for troops who served with then 1st Sgt Russ McDonald (RET CSM still at Ft. C). It was hosted by Ken Ihle at his home in VA. The Ihles moved to Crossville about 2 1/2 years ago and the gathering resumed there. Over time it has drawn other 1-327 folks and now 2-327 troops, mostly but not all from 1st BDE era. Lots of 68 and on folks also there. This year was my first visit; it was a good time. I don't have all the names of folks in the picture but I will get back to you tomorrow with those I can. Out for now.



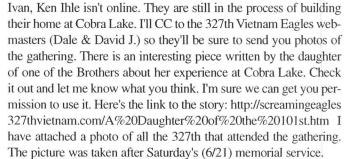
Ivan: Can't name them all but here goes.

STANDING, Left to Right, Rich Luttrell, A 2-327 67-68; Larry Redmond (ME!), A 2-327 67-68; Terry Wren, A 2-327 67-68 (Crouching in olive drab tee shirt and black hat); Un Id'd; Un Id'd; Sal Melendez, B 2-327 67-68; Un Id'd; Un Id'd.

KNEELING, Left to Right, Ron Aubuchon, A 2-327 67-68; Bathurst, NFI?; Gene Perry, HHC 2-327 67-68; Un Id'd.

Sorry that's the best I can do. Have a Happy Labor Day. Don't work too hard. Off for month to the UK and Ireland. Back late SEPT.

Editor's Note: Help with identification for this photo would be appreciated.



No Slack! • Yankee Jim Simchera <yankeej@cyou.com>

Ivan Worrell <worrell@usit.net> wrote:

Cari, I would like to use your poem about the 327 reunion in the October issue of THE FIRST SCREAMING EAGLES IN VIET NAM.

Your dad (Claude A. Frisbie, 1/327 A 7/66-2/68) is a subscriber.

Please let me know.

Ivan, Absolutely. And, thank you for the 'compliment' of wanting to use it.

Kindest regards, Cari Frisbie

Sentiments from the Cobra Lake Reunion By: a daughter of the 101st

I went to Cobra Lake for my dad... I stayed at Cobra Lake for me.

For 28 years I have admired my dad. To me, he was a policeman, a father, and a widower. To me, these were the things that defined him. I never knew that I could be so wrong.

I came to learn over those five intense days at Cobra Lake, that more than anything, my dad is a Screaming Eagle, "Above the Rest," ABU. The 101st defined his life in ways I never knew. And, since he was the one that raised me, the 101st defined MY life in ways I couldn't have imagined.

I learned so much from that very first day. So many men with so many different professions,

Continued on Page 26



Strike Force Platoon KO's Viet Cong Complex



VOL. II, No. 3

IULY

Lt Calls In Gunships, Arty During Attack On Enemy

by SP5 William P. Singley

DUC PHO - Paratropers of the 101st Airborne inflicted heavy losses on a stubborn enemy force defending a hospital and rehabilitation complex in the Song Ve valley west of

The action began when the 1st Platoon, Company A of the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry discovered a hut complex late one afternoon during Operation Malheur II.

Red Staging Area Found By 1/327

DUC PHO - An alert point man of the 101st Airborne caught an enemy soldier unaware near here recently during Operation Malheur II. The contact resulted in the discovery of a platoon and a battalion sized staging area.

Specialist 4 Larry Keables, Tampa, Fla., of the 3rd Platoon, Company B of the 1st Battalion (Airberne), 327th Infantry was leading his squad through dense jungle when he heard voices ahead.

'I crept forward," said the paratrooper. "Then I saw an NVA soldier breaking firewood in front of a complex of huts and boulders."

Keables opened fire and immediatley four more NVA emerged from a cluster of boulders and fled.

Private First Class Daniel York, Collbran, Colo., the second man in the file, moved up and took the fleeing enemy under fire.

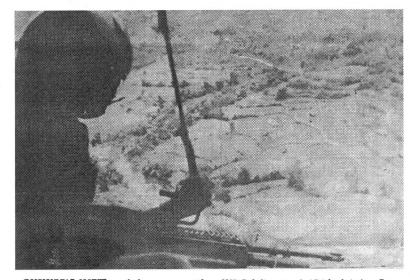
One NVA soldier was killed and two others escaped, carrying two wounded comrades with them.

The paratroopers searched the complex and pushed on. Not more than 100 meters away, they discovered a battalion-size complex. A search there revealed five rifles, 40 grenades, a rice cache and assorted documents. Also included were 80 rucksacks, each containing camoflaged fatigues, khaki uniforms, black pajamas, sandals and tennis shoes-all wrapped in plastic coverings.

Last Issue Of D&W

This issue marks the This issue marks the final appearance of "The Diplom at and Warrior" as the newspaper of the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division.

Effective August 15, "The Screaming Eagle"
will make its appearance as the voice of the
IOIst Airborne in Viet-



GUNNER'S VIEW - A door gunner with a UHID helicopter of 176th Aviation Company surveys the Song Ve river valley during the 101st Airborne's Operation Malheur II. The Minutemen of the 176th have supported the Screaming Eagles since both units arrived in I Corps May 8. (US Army Photo by PFC Michael A. Willey)

July Marks 2d Year In RVN For Bde As Troopers Continue Malheur II

DUC PHO- One hundred seventy - five miles nor-theast of Saigon on the coastal plain near Phan Rang lies the rear base camp of the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Divi-

Only the support battalion resides there. The rest of the brigade is in the field conducting Operation Malheur II near here. The Screaming Eagles have spent 21 days in their base camp in two years in Vietnam. They're always on the move - an immediate strike force.

Since landing at Cam Ranh Bay on July 29, 1965, the Screaming Eagles have con-ducted 19 major operations. They have made 25 tactical moves and traveled 2,141 miles throughout Vietnam.

Their first assignment was to recure the base camp at An Khe for the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile). This was accomplished by routing a Viet Cong battalion, allowing the "Flying Horsemen" to arrive without loss of personnel or equipment to enemy action. The paratroo-pers also secured the Qui Nhon area for the arrival of the Korean Tiger Division.

The 101st set a convoy record when brigade elements travelled from Kontum to Qui Nhon and on to Phan Rang, a distance of more than 300 miles.

BULLETIN

SAIGON — Brigade enemy kills reached more than 350 thus far in Malheur II. This brings the total to nearly 800 communist dead since arriving

The brigade proficiency training company was the first of its kind in country. General William C. Westmoreland, after viewing the training, ordered all combat units to organize similar training modelled after the Eagles'.

Currently the Screaming Eagles are engaged in fighting in I Corps as part of Task Force Oregon. The introduction of the paratroopers here has been costly to the enemy. In Operations Malheur I and II the airborne infantrymen have accounted for more than 700 enemy kills, raising the total since arriving in Vietnam to nearly 4,000

The areas patrolled by the paratroopers have been many. Cam Ranh, Nha Trang, An Khe, Qui Nhon, Ben Cat, Bien Hoa, Song Mao, Tuy Hoa, Phan Thiet, Nhon Co, Cheo Reo, Dak To, Kontum, Pleiku, Khanh Duong, Duc Pho and others. They've fought throughout I, II and III Corps areas. They've earned the nickname. "Nomads of Vietnam."

Employing stealth and strict noise discipline, Platoon Sergeant Robert P. Sherman, Columbus, Ga., moved the platoon toward the thatchroofed, jungle village.

Ten meters away from the first group of hurs, a Viet Cong guard spotted the paratroopers. The Americans moved into the complex, surprised by its size. Lieutenant Jerry Barnhill, Houston, pulled his platoon back to the edge of the clearing to establish a defensive perimeter.

The strategy was to call in artillery and gunships. When darkness fell, a grass but caught fire. Lieutenant Barnhill used it as a reference point to direct gunships and a medivac to lift out a wounded paratrooper.

Throughout the night, bullets split the air. Combat engineers and infantrymen cleared a landing zone in the darkness under enemy fire.

"There was no sleeping that night," said Specialist 4 James N. Page, Dayton, Ohio.

At daybreak, the paratroopers resumed their search of the village.

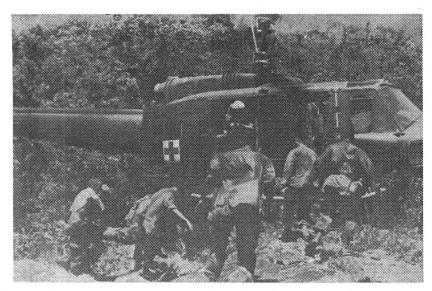
"We found 22 VC bodies and secured four detainees. said Sergeant Sherman. "And we found enough hospital and field equipment to fill a 21/2 ton truck."

101st Abn Div Changes Hands

FT. CAMPBELL, Ky. -Major General O.M. Barsanti assumed command of the 101st Airborne Division here recently.

General Barsanti is a native of Tonopah, Nev. and 1940 graduate of the University of Nevada. He is married and has a 19-year-old daughter.

General Barsanti replaces Major General Ben Sternberg who moves to an assignment with the U.S. Army Pacific Command.



MEDIVAC — Paratroopers of the 101st Airborne rush a wounded comrade to a waiting Medivac helicopter, hovering just above the ground. The Screaming Eagles are conducting Operation Malheur II near here as part of Task Force Oregon.

(US Army Photo by PFC Michael A. Willey)

Supplying An Airborne Battalion A Difficult, But Challenging Task To Delivery Teams Of 2/327

DUC PHO — Supplying a battalion of paratroopers with needed rations, ammunition and equipment is a tremendous job.

A battalion supply loadmaster bears a big responsibility in the operation-he's the man who loads the helicopters and makes sure everything is there to sustain the line companies in the jungle.

Specialist 4 Thomas E. Liddy, Rochester, N.Y., holds down the job for the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry. He and the helicopter pilots comprise the delivery team.

Sometimes, when a lot of supplies must be loaded, it's back-breaking job. Other times, when the weather limits the helicopter's lift per has and fewer supplies capability less can be carried.

"Things like the weather, altitude and the distance to the company in the field and the fuel load have a lot to do with how much a chop-per can carry," said Liddy. "When the air is hot and dry, a chopper's load has to be light. When the air is cool and moist, more supplies can be transported. That's why we try to move most of the supplies in the morning."

"The loads also have to be evenly distributed on the chopper," said Liddy. "And if we're working over mountainous terrain the air gets thinner the higher you go.

The thinner the air, the less lift capability the chopare transported."

Specialist Liddy stays on top of the loading of supplies for the "No Slack" battalion. It's his job to keep the supplies going to the field.

Old Papers Found By Clerk TellOf Huff's Medal Of Honor

DUCPHO - Private First Class Dennis A. I Kalamazoo. Mich., was rearranging packages in mail bags of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry, when he noticed something was preventing a package from settling to the bottom of the bag.

VC hides behind a tree, what's the best way to flush him

"Knock the tree down," says Private First Class William J. Price, Detroit. And, that's exactly what he and Specialist 4 Ronald C. Hill, Portland, Ore., did.

Their unit, 4th Platoon, Company A, 2 502d was searching the Song Ve valley when they spotted four Viet Cong. The VC saw the paratroopers at the same time and began running for the concealment of the jungle.

"Get two grenadiers up re," shouted Specialist 4 here," Jim Switzer, Kansas City, Kan. Price and Hill came running, and began laying down a barrage of grenade fire ahead of the running enemy.

One failed to make it, and tried to hide behind a tree.

Price and Hill eliminated the tree and the hide and

Handler Shaken By Dog's Death

DUC PHO- "We were as close as any two people could be," said Specialist 4 Patrick Copeland, Hawthorne, Calif., a handler with the 42nd Scout Dog Platoon. "He kept me warm on cold nights, was a close friend during lonely periods and saved my life more than once."

The paratrooper-dog handler attached to the 101st Airborne here was moved "Turret's" death.

by "Turret's" death.
"He was acting sick, so I came in from the field."

Turret and Specialist Copeland had been working with Company B of the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry, their favorite unit.

"He was acting sickly, so I checked him about one a.m. He still looked sick, but he was alive. The next morning I found him dead."

Turret had been in Vietnam for nearly a year. Scout dogs normally stay on line as long as they are healthy. For the canines there is no DEROS.

"He was a good dog. He didn't do anything spectac-ular, but did his job every day," said Copeland.

"He always alerted," said pecialist Copeland. "And Specialist Copeland. he was a friend."

Pierce removed the parcels and found issues of the Ft. Bragg Post. At first, Pierce paid little attention to the newspapers until he looked at the datelines: March through September, 1944.

"I had no idea how they got there," said Pierce, "so I took them to the first sergeant."

First Sergeant William E. Kelly, Fayetteville, N.C., looked at the yellowed papers. Each had been carefu'ly folded. "I was as surprised as Pierce," said Williams. "The issue of August 16, 1944 contained a story about Medal of Honor winner Sergeant Huff."

Adding to the intrigue four days later was the arrival of the new sergeant major for 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne: Sergeant Major Paul B. Huff, Medal of Honor winner, Anzio, 1944.

Fifth Purple Heart To 1/327 Sgt Maj

Heart was nothing new to Sergeant Major Michael F. Lynn. He already has four of them.

But his fifth Purple Heart was presented to him by General William C. Westmoreland, commanding general of the U.S. Army Vietnam, at the 1st Logistical Command's 67th Evacuation Hospital here.

Sergeant Major Lynn, a member of the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry was wounded once in World War II and three times in Korea.

The father of five children, Sergeant Major Lynn summed up his feelings on his fifth wound by saying, "I just want to get back to my

The DIPLOMAT and WARRIOR is an authorized weekly publication of and for the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division APO San Francisco 96347. It is printed in Saigon, RVN by Dong-Nam-A.

The opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Department of Defense or any of the Service Departments. The Service News Departments, Armed Forces News Bureau, and Army News and Photo Features augment local news.

CG BG S. H. Matheson IO. MAJ Billy E. Spangler OIC Harry C. Hana EDITOR. SSG Mike Mangiameli

Staff College Offers Extension Course For E-8's, E-9's

WASHINGTON, D.C.-The United States Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., is offering an extension course designed for E.8's and E-9's.

The 224 credit hours have been developed to assist senior noncommissioned officers in broadening their professional inilitary knowledge and to Improve their career and promotion potential.

Change one of Army Pamphlet 350-60, dated Nov. 23, 1967 explains the course and its prerequisites.

Qualified senior noncom-

missioned officers who have completed the Basic Senior Noncommissioned officer Career Development Course and have potential for sergeant major or operations sergeant of a headquarters staff section should consider taking this Made Three Combat Jumps With 82d

Veteran Of Three Wars Wraps Up Vietnam Tour

ways understood." said Sergeant First Class Esiquio R. Martinez, Hopkinsville, Ky.

Recalling 25 years of continuous military service that carried him through three wars and more than 160 months overseas, the 53-year-old veteran grew thoughtful. "I've never had an accompanied overseas tour, but my wife has been wonderful about it."

As he waited for a ride to the airstrip at the forward command post of the 101st Airborn: the sergeant reflected on his year in Vietnam. Minutes earlier he was presented his 15th award of the Bronze Star Medal, this time for service with the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 320th Artillery.

The father of five children, one of whom finished a tour in Vietnam last January, said he had enjoyed his tour and wouldn't mind coming back.

"I'm a 30-year man," he explained, "and there's still lots to be done over here."

Sergeant Martinez is a master parachutist who has

more than 500 jumps to his credit. He made three combat jumps with the 82d Airborne Division during World War II and fought with the 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team in Korea. His decorations include 24 r.bbons, among them the Silver Star and two Purple Hearts.

His most unforgettable moment occurred in the United States prior to going overseas in World War II.

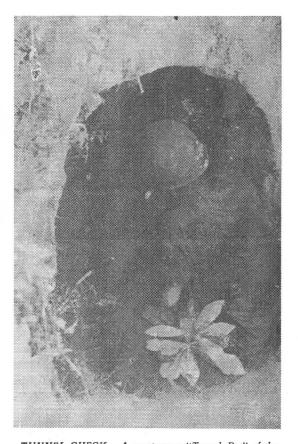
overseas in World War II.

"It was in '43 at Camp McCall, N.C.," he said. "Fifteen of us were on a C-47 getting ready to make a training jump when an engine caught fire. The pilot couldn't put it out and the plane began falling. Only three of us got out the door before it crashed."

Sergeaut Martinez also recalls a thrilling moment marching with the 82d Airborne Division in New York, celebrating the end of the war in Europe.

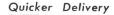
But now his Vietnam tour was over. He might be back, he told Lieutenant Colonel Andrew S. Bolcar, Knoxville, Tenn., the artillery commander.

You could tell he meant it. And Eloise always has been understanding.



TUNNEL CHECK— A paratrooper "Tunnel Rat" of the 101st Airborne checks a tunnel complex during Operation Malheur II. The Screaming Eagles have uncovered complex after complex of extensive tunnels and bunkers while sweeping through Quang Nghia province.

(US Army Photo by SP4 Alva Tate)



Brigade And Special Forces Team Up, Establish A Forward Supply Point

MINH LONG — Beneath the ramparts of the Minh Long Special Forces camp, the 101st Airborne has established a Forward Supply Point (FSP). It is manned by logistic elements of the support battalion and the three fighting battalions, 1/327, 2/327, 2/502.

"The main mission of the

"The main mission of the FSP," said First Lieutenant Kendall B. Coen, Mineral Bluff, Ga., Supply and Transportation platoon leader, "is direct and rapid delivery of supplies to the line units."

Instead of the long helicopter trips between Duc Pho and units in the field, a reservoir of supplies, consisting mainly of food and ammunition, is built at Minh Long. From the FSP each rifle company is only minutes from resupply.

The 101st and Special Forces personnel work together. Civillan Irregular Defense Group soldiers along with the paratroopers provide security for the camp. Ten

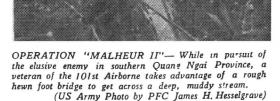
Screaming Eagles are guests of the Special Forces for dinner each evening.

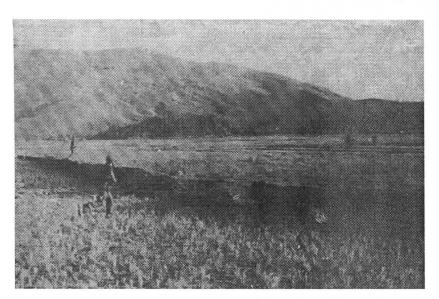
"Time is cut in half getting materiel to the troops," said Specialist 4 Claude Patterson, Birmingham, Ala., of the 1,327. "It saves money and man hours. The choppers spend less time in the air and the work is easier for supply people."



RICE PADDY VIGIL—A Civilian Irregular Defense Group soldier overlooks rice paddies surrounding the Special Forces camp at Minh Long. The Screaming Eagles of the 101st Airborne have used the camp for some supply points during Operation Malheur II.

(US Army Photo by SP5 William P. Singley)





SPREAD OUT AND ALERT - Crossing a dried rice paddy in Quang Nghia province can be a dangerous adventure, so paratroo pers of the 101st Airborne stay alert to any eventuality. Half-way across, small arms fire broke out from the far tree line. Artillery was called in and (US Army Photo by SP4 Dennis Stout) the enemy fled.

2/502 Patrol Kills VC **Near Ammunition Cache**

DUC PHO - Sergeant Curtis E. Hacker, Covington, Ky., cautiously led his squad toward what appeared to be a vacant hut in the Song Ve valley. The veteran squad leader was searching for a company defensive position for the night.

Suddenly, a VC walked out of the hut. When the paratroopers of Company A, 2d Battalion (Airberne), 502d Infantry yelled for him to halt, he fled into a nearby potato patch.

"We couldn't all see him," said Hacker, "but we all opened fire." The paratroopers were confident the

enemy had been hit. Private First Class Fernendo O. Lizardi Jr., Thousand Oaks, Calif., agreed: "A rabbit couldn't have made it through there alive."

"Just then the VC popped. up and started running toward the tree line. dodging and twisting," Hacker said. "Before he reached the trees, we opened up again. Hedidn't make it."

Later, when the squad searched the hut, they found ammunition and rice.

"Nothing gets by us," grinned Specialist 4 James. T. Frazier, Littleton, Colo.

SCREAMING EAGLE HONOR ROLL

Vietnamese Decorations Gallantry Cross with Palm

Davis, Oscar E., COL, HHC, Bde Hogan, John, SP4, 2502

Gallantry Cross with Gold Star

Abood, Edmond P., LTC, 2,327 Buckley, Harry A., LTC, 2,502

Gallantry Cross with Silver Star

Hooker, Willie C., SP4, 1 327
Twele, John G., SP4, 1 327
Waks, Frank J., SP4, 1 327
Adame, John C., PFC, 1/327
Hillyard, Fred J., CPT, 2/327
Moore, John N., LT, 2/327
Moore, John N., LT, 2/327
Whiffield, Eddie C., SP4, 2/327
Campbell, Harvey E., PFC, 2/502
Gutierrez, Lionell, PFC, 2/502
Pryor, Donald C., PFC, 2/502
Scott, Jerry C., MAJ, HHC, Bde

Gallantry Cross with Bronze Star

Northquest, William, CPT, 1/327 Mutchler, Bradford E., CPT, 1,327 Kalu, David, PSG, 1327 Bowen, Gregory D., PFC, 1,327 Lincoln, Frank C., SSG, 2/327 Berry, Edward G., SP4, 2 327 Sonnenberg, Duwayne, SP4, 2,327 Conlon, Arthur F., CPT, 2,502 Jenkins, Dolfey, SP5, 2,502 McClusky, Francis, PFC, 2,502 Cash, Morris Jr., SSG, 17th Cav Markovich, Samuel, LT, 2 320 Wessell, Leon M., LT, 2 327 Newsome, Stephen, SP1, 2:320 McIsac, Daniel, 2LT, HHC, Bde Williams, Danny, SGT, HHC, Bde Bligh, Thomas, F., MAJ, HHC, Bde Lea, Charles E., MAJ, HHC, Bde Morton, Richard H., MAJ, HHC, Bde Rafferty, James R., MAJ, HHC, Bde

Squad Repels Ambush Near Site

VC Detainee Leads Strike Force Sqd To Hidden Cache Of Mortar Rounds

DUC PHO _ A Viet Cong detained was guiding eight paratroopers of Company A, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry, through dense jungle west of here to a hidden weapons

"The jungle was so thick," sald Sergeant Bobbie E. Williams, Kembridge, Va., "only the point man could

Enemy bullets broke the silence and the nine men hit the ground. Specialist 4 Bennie Thomas, Fort Worth, Tex., crawled forward reassuring the men and directed them back to safe positions. Meanwhile, Sergeant Williams radioed for assistance and displayed panel markers to mark their position.

Helicopter gunships, artillery, and jets responded immediately, raking the enemy ambush location with withering fire.

"It was close." said Williams, "they did a great job." When the smoke cleared and the enemy were silenced, the nine proceded to the hidden cache where they found mortar rounds and other enemy equipment.

New CO For A 2/502

DUC PHO - Captain Steven L. Arnold, Decatur, Ill., took command of Attack Company of the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry in a change of command ceremony recently at the tac-tical command post near

VC Surprise Foiled By Alert Point Man

DUC PHO - Two Viet Cong tried to surprise a 101st Airborne outpost near here and failed because Specialist 4 Anthony J. Augustino,

West Springfield, Mass., was alert.

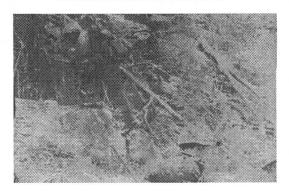
"I was pulling the last watch," said Augustino. "Dawn was breaking when I saw them in the morning haze. One wasn't more than seven yards from me."

The two enemy soldiers were moving toward an American position across from Augustino's outpost. A twist in the trail prevented the unsuspecting paratroopers from seeing the approaching VC.

Private First Class Stephan S. Vylasek, Bensonville, Ill., and his two buddies were startled when Augustinoopened fire.

"They were pointing at Steve," said Augustino, before they could fire, I gave them both a burst. One of them was so close he almost fell on top of me."

"They must have been waiting out there all night," said Vylasek, adding: "Augie



ROCKY JUNGLE CLIMB - The trail sometimes gets rough and sometimes goes straight up, paratroopers of the 101st Airborne find. (US Army Photo)

LT. DAVID CAMPBELL, B, 2/502 VN sent this poem to express his feelings.

"BEWARE THIS MAN"

Listen, you citizens, and listen well,
When stories are told of men in Hell,
Look at the man, and give him ear,
For this man knows the meaning of fear—

Look for the man with a 101st crest, He fought with giants, he's one of the best, He knows what it is to fall from the sky, To fight like a man, and yes, even to die—

He fought with men, a special breed, True to their oath, the Paratrooper's Creed, Those men of iron who have a bond to keep, With comrades below in graves so deep—

He fought in the day and he fought at night,
He killed in anger and he killed in fright,
He buried his dead, and then wondered in
awe,
"This killing of men, is this God's law?"

A task he had, and hell would pay,
Before this trooper would quit that day,
So he kept on fighting and hunting VC,
For a world, which someday, might freer
be.

A warning to you, who laugh and scorn, This man did not fight for a cause forlorn, He's done his job, more than his share, So beware of him when he enters your lair—

This man means trouble for all your kind, You shrinkers and cowards, with a sick soul and mind,

Beware his temper, that you do not burst, Because he's a fighter—from the 101st.

> 1LT DAVID CAMPBELL B 2/502 1/101 APO SF 96347

From "The Screaming Eagle", magazine of the 101st Airborne Division Association, March - April 1968 page 31.

Thursday, February 20, 2003

Dear Ivan,

Your note today caused me to scurry around in the attic among my 101st memorabilia, something I haven't done in a long time.

You certainly can use the poem you sent me. I am enclosing copies of others that I wrote in 67-68. I was a platoon leader (4th Platoon.. "The Dealers") in B/2/502, then company XO, Bn S-4, Recondo Commander and finally B Company Commander.

You can have the 8 x 10 pictures as I have copies of them; they were taken in Phan Rang in early 1967. I would like the smaller pictures and the "body count" cards back. The picture of the three officers in front of the 1st Bde sign are three graduates of Ole Miss (1 to r ... Cpt Bill Dalehite, 25th Inf Division, Major Max Waldrop, 1st Bde S-3, and me).

I have some color pictures from 67-68, but don't know if they would copy well (I carried a small Olympus camera with me in my extra ammo pouch). Also have color slides and don't know if you can reproduce those. Let me know.

I've had it in the back of my mind to send you the platoon pictures if you wanted them, so your note came at a good time as a motivator.

Keep up the good work. We were fortunate as paratroopers to serve with the best soldiers in the world!

LTC(R) Dave Campbell, 2/502 B Recon 1/67-6/68 84 Middle Creek Rd., Irmo, SC 29063 (803) 781-8656

Director, Disaster Response Services South Carolina Department of Social Services P.O. Box 1520 • Columbia, SC 29202-1520 (803) 898-7575 • Fax: (803) 898-7195 E-Mail: dcampbell1@dss.state.sc.us

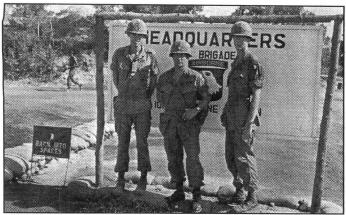
COMPLIMENTS OF

BCSS

"Yea, though we walk through the valley of the shadow of death, we will fear no evil—for we support the meanest sons-of-bitches in the valley."

FOR SERVICE CALL:
BRAVO COMBAT SUPPORT SECTION
COMPANY B, 2ND BN. (ABN) 502 INFANTRY

"SUPPORTING THE WIDOWMAKERS"



Three Ole Miss Graduates pose in front of the 1st Brigade sign. They are (L to R) Captain Bill Dalehite [25th Infantry Division], Major Max Waldrop, 1st Brigade S-3, and David Campbell



PHAN RANG, Vietnam - HOMECOMING. This greeting welcomed paratroopers after an eight month absence from their base camp here. Support battalion personnel went "all the way" to make the homecoming a memorable event. (USA Photo by Spec. 4 Ben Croxton)



ĐÀY LÀ KẾT - QUẢ CỦA VIỆT CỘNG



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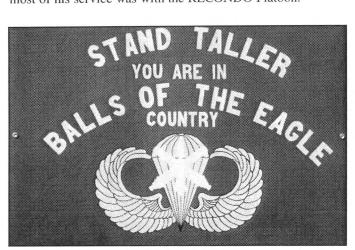
October 2003

"THE DEALERS"

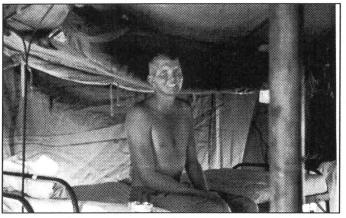


2/320 AND 2/502 IN 1966

These photos were sent by Ernest (LT. Red) Bridgers who was assigned to the 2/320 Artillery and spent most of his tour attached to the 2/502 where he served as a Forward Observer with each of the rifle companies at one time or another but most of his service was with the RECONDO Platoon.



2/320th unit sign



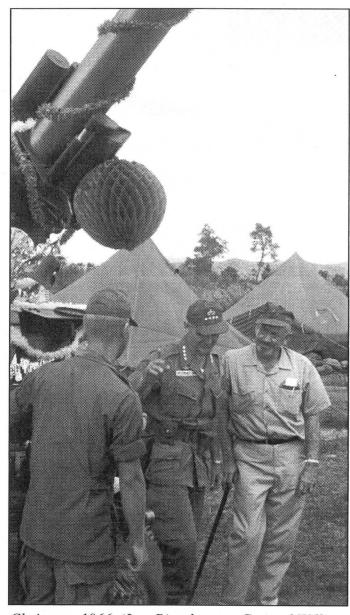
1LT John Mooneyham in hospital with malaria at Nha Trang.

John Mooneyham (or Big John as he was affectionately known among the Troopers) was a Platoon Leader and then XO of A/2/502 during the 66/67 period. He returned to the states and was stationed as an Instructor at the Mountain Phase Ranger Camp. He did another tour in VN as an Infantry Company Commander (1st Cav) for 8 months before being wounded and evacuated to the States. The remainder of his distinguished career was spent in Special Forces, a career which included being the Senior Military Advisor to the Ambassador in Kuwait at the time of the Iraqi invasion. He and his wife Ellen (a most gracious lady who he met while at the Mountain Ranger Camp)reside in a beautiful mountain home at:37 Skylake,Sautee Nacoche, GA 30571 email - e_mooney@yahoo.com, Home Phone - 706-878-7022

Editor's Note: See photo of John Mooneyham in LET-TERS TO THE EDITOR.



C Company 2/502 1st Sergeant Walter Sabalauski showing enemy memorabilia after Dak To.



Christmas 1966, (L to R) unknown, General William C. Westmoreland (101 ABN CG 58-60) and noted author John Steinbeck

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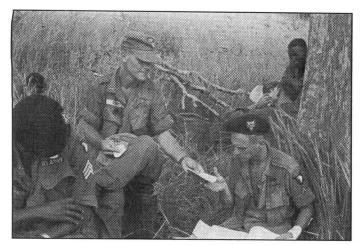
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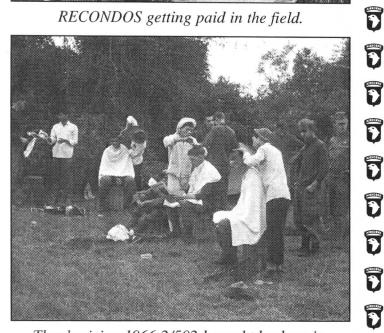
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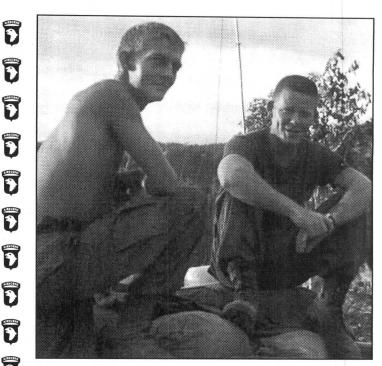
RECONDOS getting paid in the field.



Thanksgiving 1966 2/502 brought barbers in.



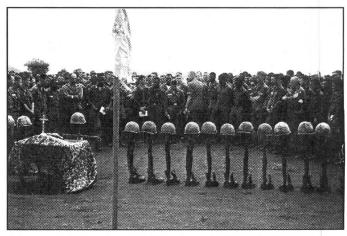
Christmas 1966 2/320th.



(L to R) Captain Tony Kelly Battery Commander, Fred Van Horn



Christmas 1966. LTC Madden CO of the 2/320th 65-66 stepping in front of the organ.



Memorial Service 2/502 after Dak To C Company 1st Sergeant Sabalauski in right foreground.

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TO THE

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To the

Kenneth B. Taylor [2/327 C 6/66 - 6/67], 1611 Anelope Trail, Harker Heights, TX 76548-2189, has written a series of short essays about his experiences in the Army, particularly in the 1st Brigade in Viet Nam.

On Eagles Wings

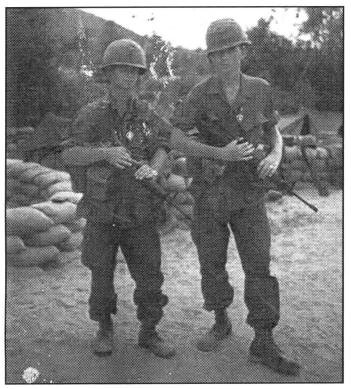


By

Kenneth "Teddy Bear" Taylor

Auggie

His real last name was Augustino. There was a cartoon on TV and one of the characters was called Auggie Doggie, so the men just started calling him "Auggie." He had a great sense of humor, and people talking to him were always laughing. He didn't look or act rough and tough. He had a New York accent and Italian features. He was completely unassuming in training, but I heard some stories about him once he got to Vietnam.



This is a picture of another squad leader and me after receiving Purple Hearts.

Several universal problems jumped out as you experienced combat and "Auggie" apparently found a cure for two of them. When I heard the stories I could relate to both of them and picture his actions.

Many nights I sat on guard duty looking out into the darkness. The military punishment for falling to sleep on guard duty is death. The American Army may not have to carry out that punishment because the enemy fully enjoys that opportunity themselves. Even with the hard physical effort expended during the day, we were required to take turns with one hour shifts of guard duty from our perimeter positions nightly. There were usually only three people on each position, so you would be awakened several times each night to watch for enemy movement. On one particular night "Auggie" sat alert in his foxhole. Looking out into the night he saw enemy soldiers crawling up the hill in front of the position next to him. The people in that position were sleeping and would have been killed. Unfortunately, if the enemy gained the center of the perimeter it placed the leadership in jeopardy, and exposed the rear of all the positions on the perimeter. "Auggie" didn't react on reflex, but waited quietly. Just as they were close enough to attack he opened fire with his M16 and killed all the enemy soldiers by himself.

Another frustrating event was getting ambushed. The enemy had a hit and run tactic of violently attacking us from the side of the trail and then moving forward to do it again. My platoon walked into three ambushes within half an hour by the same enemy, on the same trail. There was so much confusion that it was hard to regroup fast enough to effectively chase and apprehend the enemy. All this was compounded if one of our soldiers was killed or wounded. "Auggie" felt the frustration of this enough times to know what would happen when his platoon was ambushed. To the enemies misfortune, an ambush killed one of his friends. Instead of waiting for the confusion to settle "Auggie" reacted immediately. He left the platoon behind and ran forward after the enemy soldiers on his own. Running down the trail at top speed he rounded a corner and spotted the enemy in the trail getting ready to set up another ambush. "Auggie" killed all of them by himself.

Much of the time effort must be team oriented for success, but sometimes an individual can work more efficiently alone. Going out on your own is dangerous. You have no one to rely on for back-up if anything goes wrong. Fighting common sense requires extra courage but the success speaks for itself.

Ken Taylor

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Continued from Page 16

coming from so many different states. Yet so many men with a similar sense of humor, a similar kind soul, and a similar story. I watched time and again two men shake hands, say hello, name their state of residence... form a tear in their eye, hug, and say "welcome home brother." Everywhere I turned it was the same. They didn't need to share stories; they all had the same story. They didn't need to 'get to know each other'; they already knew each other. They were family! And from this, I was family.

As the weekend continued, I was no longer a daughter of a policeman, a daughter of my father, a daughter of a widower. I was a daughter of the 101st! And with each story one of my "uncles" told me, my pride in my family grew.

I went to Cobra Lake to find my dad... I stayed at Cobra Lake and found myself.

I wasn't only surprised at how similar the men were, I was surprised at how similar the women were. I always thought my sense of humor and my spunky attitude came from being a red-head. How wrong I was, again. Each of the "women of the 101st" were just as spunky, just as independent, and just as humorous. A special bunch of people loving a special group of men.

I've had a few 'turning points' in my life. Losing my mother to cancer. Graduating from college. I'm sure my wedding day will be one of them. But just as close to my heart, forever, will be these five days at Cobra Lake... these five days with the Screaming Eagles.

As I sit here writing what I've learned, I thought about typing up some of the stories. But somehow they seem too precious to put into print. Besides, anyone reading this doesn't need to hear them; you already know the stories, you've already lived them.

My memories of Cobra Lake will include: guitar strings and singing voices under the stars; the look of tears in certain men's eyes; a mardi-gras bead battlefield as men detailed their stories of Vietnam; the amount of pride you can hear in a "Hoo-Yah;" sitting side by side with warriors; listening to the names of heros read; Bobbipins

and Speedos (*giggle*); lots and lots of laughter; the true meaning of camaraderie; and last but not least, a damn fine-looking bunch of men!

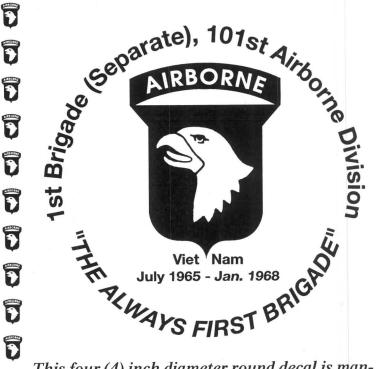
Thank you Rick and Ron, Terry and Richard, Tony and Steve, Richard and Dale, Tom and Dave, Daddy and Clyde, Ken and Angie... and to all those I can't think of right now through the fog in my mind. Thank you for your compassion, your kindness, your laughter, your stories, and 'the gift of a coin'. Thank you for opening up, shedding tears with me, and letting me into your lives. Thank you for showing me who my dad is. Thank you for showing me who I am.

I just can't imagine that I'll have to wait another year for the next time at Cobra Lake. I spent five days among warriors of the greatest kind. And from this, I will never be the same.

God Bless the Screaming Eagles!

Above the Rest & No Slack Cari Frisbie cfrisbie_21@yahoo.com

11012



This four (4) inch diameter round decal is manufactured so that it may be used both inside and outside. The patch is full color. Price is \$2.50 each postpaid. See order form on page 28.













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Issue #21



Issue #22

1st BRIGADE (SEPARATE) 101st Airborne Division **Viet Nam** July 1965 "The Always First Brigade"

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George B. Vondruska 2/502 A 1/65-7/66 - 4/04 716 South Dennis St. Kennewick, WA 99336-4820

Dale N. Wagner \$ 2/17 CAV A Trp 5/66-6/67 - 4/04 PO Box 7720 Reno, NV 89510-7720

LTC(R) John Wagner 5/27 FA C Bty 7/66-12/66 - 4/04 9610 Apple Orchard Drive Bent Mountain, VA 24059-2010

Richard J. "Rich" Walsh 2/327 C 6/67-6/68 - 4/04 2 Brook Farm Rd. Boston, MA 02132-1604

COL(R) Joseph Wasco, Jr. \$ 2/327 CO 1/66-1/67 - 4/04 1791 Clearview Rd. Union Bidge, MD 21791-9703

COL(R) Samuel J. Watson, III \$ 2/327 HHC 9/65-9/66 - 4/05 6364 Hillcrest Place Alexandria, VA 22312

John P. Wayrynen Family (Dale MOH 2/502 B)-4/04 33198 St. Hwy 65 McGregor, MN 55760-5721

MG(R) Jerry A. White \$ 1/327 A 7/66-7/67 - 4/04 6825 Copper Oaks Road Columbus, GA 31904

LTC(R) Bliss W. "Zeke" Wilder 2/502 HHC 9/64-11/66 - 4/04 4611 Husky Dr. Bellingham, WA 98226

Michael A. Willey \$ Brigade PIO 9/66-10/67 - 4/05 32176 Chester Garden City, MI 48135-1742 Frederick R. Williams 1/327 HHC 12/66-8/67 - 7/04 117 Queen Rd. Millville, NJ 08332-7217

Herbert D. Williams, III 2/327 A&B 7/67-6/68 - 7/04 124 Artillery Rd. Winchester, VA 22602-6945

David Williamson 2/327 C 1/69-1/71 - 1/04 139 Francois Road Malvern, AR 72104

James A. Wilson 2/327 B 9/66-8/67 - 4/04 2538 Alder Glen Dr. Lodi, CA 95242-4601

CW-4(RET) Frank Wohlfahrt 1/502 HQ 3/67-1/68 - 4/04 1565 S. Dell Point Homosassa, FL 34448-6404

Perry "Woody" Woodruff 2/502 RECON 66-67 - 4/04 17283 Davenport Rd. Winter Garden, FL 34787-9106

Terry L. Wren 2/327 A 4/67-2/68 - 4/04 5622 N 13000 W Rd. Custer Park, IL 60481-9026

C. C. Wright 2/502 B 63-2/66 - 4/05 721 Crawford St. Belding, MI 48809-1215

John Yeager, Jr. 2/502 C 66-67 - 4/04 Law Ofcs of John Yeager, Jr. 3312 West Street Weirton, WV 26062-4610

Richard Young 2/320 FA HQ 2/64-2/66 - 4/04 49 King St. Hatfield, MA 01038

Terry R. Zahn SPT BN HQ Elt 7/65-5/66 - 4/04 14824 Erskine St. Omaha, NE 68116-5123

Tim Zumwalt 1/327 B 5/65-7/66 EIT- 4/04 P.O. Box 49 Piedra, CA 93649-0049

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Address Corrections

June 5, 2003 through August 29, 2003

Arthur W. "Ossie" Burton 2/327 Inf B 12/65-5/66 – 4/04 RR 2, Box 366-A, Lot 1 Lewisburg, WV 24901

Ken Claypoole 2/327 B 10/66-6/67 - 4/04 P.O. Box 980752 West Sacramento, CA 95798

LTC(R) John J. Dorsey 2/327 A 6/66-5/67 - 4/04 172 S Coeur d'Alene St. Apt G301 Spokane, WA 99204-1180

Raymond L. Land 1/327 C 5/67-1/68 - 7/04 101 E. La Pera St. Green Valley, AZ 85614

Kenneth E. Mooi 1/327 C 9/66-9/67 - 7/04 11547 E. Vine Ave. Mesa, AZ 85208-5527

John C. Perry 1/30 ARTY B Btry 7/66-7/67-7/03 P.O. Box 144 Harrisville, WV 26362-0144

MG(R) Paul E. Vallely 2/327 A 1/66-6/66 - 10/03 P.O. Box 1596 Bigfork, MT 59911-1596

1ST BRIGADE (S)

VIET NAM TOUR

MARCH 2004

SEE PAGE 6

FOR DETAILS



8th BIENNIAL REUNION, 1st BRIGADE (SEPARATE), 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION, 12 - 15 OCTOBER 2002, FORT WORTH, TEXAS

1. COL (R) Jerry Scott [2/502 B 7/66 – 7/67] introduces the reunion dinner speaker B. G. Burkett Author of the book STOLEN VALOR. [Worrell pix] **2.** CSM (R) Joseph M. Bossi [2/327 HHC 6/66 – 7/67], making an announcement before the dinner program begins. Joe was responsible for getting the active duty First Brigade Color Guard and other representation to the reunion. [Worrell pix] **3.** CPT (R) Charles J. "Jim" Apodaca [2/502 B 5/66 – 4/67] and Joyce wait for dinner at the Brigade Reunion. [Worrell pix] **4.** Doing the honors are MG (R) S. H. Matheson [HHC CG 1/67 – 1/68] with Reunion Chairman Kenneth V. Arnold III [HHC AVN 10/66 – 10/67] standing by. [Worrell pix] **5.** BG(R) John W. "Rip" Collins III [HHC 67 – 68], MG (R) S. H. Matheson [HHC CG 1/67 – 1/68] and LTC(R) Geoffrey T. Barker [HHC 8/66 – 4/68] stand as the Color Guard from the 1st Brigade 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) prepare to Post the Colors. [Worrell pix] **6.** Joe E. McGill [2/327 A 3/66 – 3/67] in line to have photo made for the official picture book for the reunion. [Worrell pix]

JAMES (JIM) W. PERSCHKA

The APRIL 2003 issue of "The First Screaming Eagles in Viet Nam" was returned marked deceased for JAMES (JIM) W. PERSCHKA, 2/502 B 7/65-7/66, 5416 Delona Road, Milton, FL 32583-1611. An obituary was requested from the family but no other info was available at this time.

JIM NEILSEN

ROBERT HUDSON, 2/327 C 6/65-7/66, 5221 NW 119th St., Gainesville, FL 32653; work (352) 337-8590, home (352) 332-6373, hud101@bellsouth.net sent the following email concerning the death of Jim Neilsen.

Ivan, the current issue of The Always First Brigade was excellent, one of the best yet. I thought I would pass on the following information.

Some of your readers may remember Jim Neilsen. He was a platoon leader in the 2/502, and was one of the first platoons on the ground in the battle of An Ninh in September 1965. Major Dexter was with Jim's platoon when he was KIA. Jim was a classmate of mine in OCS, and we rented a house together with Lt. Joel Stephenson at Fort Campbell before deploying to RVN with the Brigade. He lived in the Seattle area, Issaquah, Washington, after he left the Army. Jim retired on December 31, 2002, and died of a brain aneuryism on March 19 of 2003.

Regards, Bob Hudson (2/327)

PETE MITCHELL

Subject: Pete Mitchell, 1/327 C, A, & HQ 5/66 - 11/67

Date: Wed, 30 Jul 2003 20:33:41 EDT

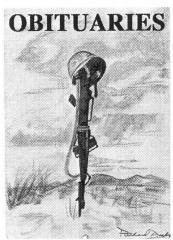
From: CSM (R) John R. "Russ" McDonald, 1/327 C 1/64 - 7/68

CobraTop327@aol.com

This is the official obit for Pete Mitchell in the newspaper, except in the Marietta, Georgia, paper the front page had two wonderful articles and pictures of Pete, his children and wife Ellen. There were 15 of us who attended from the 327th and there were several hundred people there. Pete was remembered by many dignitaries from Marietta and Atlanta, he was a remarkable man and will be missed very much by all of us.

Ellen (his wife) would love to hear from any of you who would like to send her a card, the reunion was very special to both she and Pete and she says she will be there next June. (Ellen Mitchell, 535 Indian Hill Parkway, Marietta, GA 30068-4139)

Mr. Peter Mitchell, age 63 of Marietta, Georgia, died Saturday, July 26, 2003. A native of Staten Island, New York, Mr. Mitchell was a graduate of LaFayette University, Easton, Pennsylvania and attended the University of Pennsylvania School of Law. He served for five years in the United States Army, including a tour of 18 months with the 101st Airborne Division in Vietnam. Mr. Mitchell was a recipient of the Silver Star Medal, the Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Air Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster and the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Oak Leaf Cluster for bravery and meritorious service. Mr. Mitchell was Chairman and immediate past President of the Atlanta Vietnam Veterans Business Association and an active vol-



unteer with the American Red Cross, where he served as a Disaster Action Team Member and was past Captain at the Northwest Metro Service Center. Mr. Mitchell was also the American Red Cross National Disaster Field Supply Center Manager and the Emergency Response Vehicle Coordinator for the State of Georgia. He was active in Cobb County Republican politics, was a member of the Atlanta Lion's Club, a Troop Leader for the Boy Scouts of America, and a volunteer with Habitat for Humanity at Mt. Zion United Methodist Church, where he was a member. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Fern Stooksbury Mitchell. Mr. Mitchell is survived by his wife, Ellen Hankins Mitchell; his son, Robert Joseph Mitchell of Atlanta; his daughter and son in-law, Lori and Kevin Kelleher of Charleston, SC; his stepchildren and their spouses, Major Steven and Natalie Hawkins of West Point, NY and Scott Miller of

Rayville, MO and five grandchildren. Funeral services will be held Wednesday, July 30 at 2:00 p.m at Mt. Zion United Methodist Church with the Reverend Laura Parker and Reverend Ronald Baskin officiating. The family received friends Tuesday evening, July 29 from 6:00 until 9:00 p.m. at Canton Hill. On-line tributes for Mr. Mitchell may be posted at www.mem.com. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the American Red Cross, 1955 Monroe Drive, Atlanta, GA 30324 or to the Atlanta Vietnam Veterans Business Association, 4243 Dunwoody Club Drive, Suite 200, Atlanta, GA 30350. Arrangements by H.M. Patterson & Son, Canton Hill Chapel, 1157 Old Canton Rd., N.E., Marietta, GA 30068; 770-977-9485.

JAMES WARREN

Subject: Visit SFC James Warren's (No Slack 67) Web Site, deceased June 2003 From: "Yankee Jim" <YankeeJim@screamingeagles-327thvietnam.com>

Brothers,

Turn up your volume and visit our Brother James Warren's web site. James passed away early last month and his son Robbie is maintaining his site and has added pictures of his father's funeral service. Please sign the guest book. http://www.geocities.com/robbiew80/screamingeagle2-327.htm

No Slack & Above The Rest! Yankee Jim

Editor's note: I checked the web site and he was buried on 6/5/03. James was in my database with no address or phone number.

BARBARA NOWLIN

Our Brother, John Nowlin (C 1/327 65-66, RTO, 1st Plat) has lost his beautiful wife Barbara to cancer.

John held a memorial service for Barbara at their home on Tuesday, July 15, 2003 at 2:00 P.M.

The address is: 2003 Peaceful Place, Amissville, VA 20106

Please send donations in lieu of flowers to John at the same address.

THE FIRST SCREAMING EAGLES IN VIET NAM

Ivan Worrell, Editor and Publisher 117 1/2 North Main Street Post Office Box 675 Sweetwater, TN 37874-0675

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THE FIRST SCREAMING EAGLES IN VIET NAM

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Opinions expressed by writers and the editor are entirely their own and are not to be considered official expressions of any organization that plans reunions and otherwise acts on behalf of veterans of the 1st Brigade (Separate), 101st Airborne Division.

Advertisements for products and services do not constitute an endorsement by the editor and publisher.

Manuscripts, photographs, slides and drawings are submitted at the contributors' risk. All material submitted will be copied and returned to the owner.

The editor and publisher reserves the right to edit all submissions for clarity and to meet space constraints. The editor and publisher has the right to refuse any article or advertisement that may, in his opinion, cause embarrassment to any veteran of the 1st Brigade (Separate), 101st Airborne Division. Deadlines for submissions are the first day of March, June, September and December.

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This magazine is produced by and for veterans of the ALWAYS FIRST BRIGADE who served in the brigade from July 1965 through January 1968. The publication will chronicle the military history and accomplishments of veterans who served, as well as units that were assigned, attached or supported the brigade. The editor solicits material about the brigade for use in the magazine and for future publication in a book that will contain a comprehensive history of the brigade.

Another goal of the editor is to lead an initative to place a monument, to honor members of the brigade, at the Wings of LIBERTY Military Museum at Fort Campbell, Kentucky (the museum will be located on the Tennessee side of Fort Campbell).

PERSONALIZED ZIPPO LIGHTER

This Zippo is engraved with the 101st Patch with the 1st Brigade (S) 101st ABN DIV information arched above the patch. Three (3) lines of engraving show your name, your unit and Viet Nam with the years you served in the brigade. Each line of engraving is limited to 16 characters per line, including spaces. The finish of the lighter is brushed steel.



See Order Form Page 28

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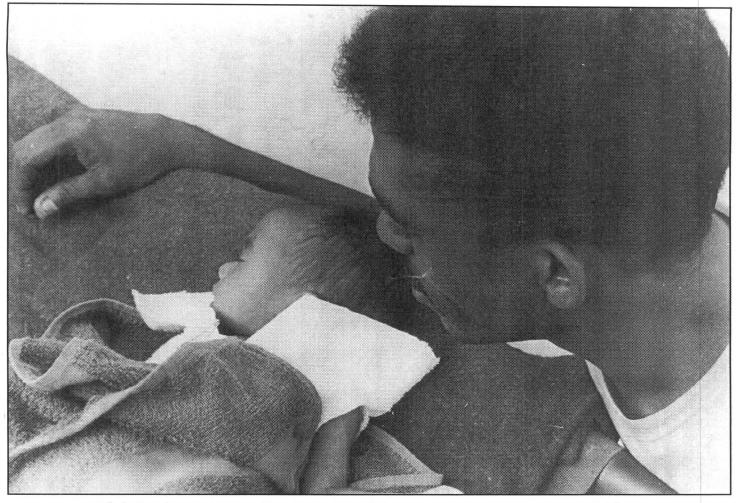
Deadline

Material to be published in the January 2004 issue of <u>The First SCREAMING EAGLES In</u>
Viet Nam is Due December 1st, 2003

1ST BRIGADE (S) - VIET NAM TOUR MARCH 2004 SEE PAGE 6 FOR DETAILS

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INSIDE FRONT COVER Notes from the editor and information about the front cover.	2/320 AND 2/502 IN 1966	
PHANTOM WARRIORS		
A chapter from Gary Linderer's book about LRRPs, LRPs a Rangers in Viet Nam. This chapter about the 1st Brigade LRI Detachment is a good example of the amazing stories of the el units from other units in Viet Nam.	RP AUCCIE PAGE 25	
RETURN TO VIET NAM	ITEMS FOR SALE	
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR	SUBSCRIBERS LISTS	
THE DIPLOMAT AND WARRIORPAGES 17 – 2 Reproduction of the July 21, 1967 issue of the 1st Brigade weely newspaper. This is the last issue before the name changed THE SCREAMING EAGLE. The original paper was sent Donald R. Lenc [2/320 FA HHB 6/67 – 6/68]. His address is	reunion last October. If you have additional ones of this reunion or the 101st Airborne Division Association Reunion, in August send them for publication.	
the address label affixed to the front page.	OBITUARIES	
B COMPANY 2/502 MEMORIESPAGES 21 & 2 Material sent by LTC (R) David Campbell would fill many morpages. With this start I hope to use more in future issues. It translation of Widow Makers card see July 1999 issue page 19	PUBLICATION INFORMATION	
FIRST RENEWAL NOTICE F	OR OCTOBER 03 EXPIRATIONS	
If your mailing label shows this date.		
UNIT AND DATES 10/03	will assure that you do not miss an issue of this chronicle of the history o	
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DUC PHO, Viet Nam—A CHIID IS TO LOVE. Specialist 5 David L. Hall, Lawton, Okls., spent the night watching over this abandoned Vietnamese infant. Hall, father of three sons, is a medical specialist with the 563d Medics supporting the lolst Airborne near here.

(67-376-10) US Army photo by SP4 Daniel Stroebel, 1st Bdc, 101st Abn Div IO, APO 96347, Tel Strike Fwd 99, Strike Rear 109

Editor's Note: See photo on page 4

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