

*The First  
Screaming*

A HISTORICAL REVIEW OF  
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*

1st Brigade (Separate) Viet Nam



101st Airborne Division

Volume 7, Number 4

October 2005

\$6.00

# **The ALWAYS FIRST Brigade**



## **COMMUNICATE**

You may have seen the DVD "101st Airborne Division Historical Overview 1942 - 2005" advertised in the 101st Airborne Division's The Screaming Eagle. I purchased one and found that most actions of the division were covered well EXCEPT for the 1st Brigade (S) in Viet Nam. The 26 month history of the brigade was covered in eight seconds. That is all! Your purchase of this DVD will benefit the association. If you want to see 1st Brigade (S) history expect eight seconds.

Preparations for the September 2006 reunion (see page 34) are in progress. My goal is to make the reunion the best place we have been for two years to meet with fellow 1st Brigade veterans in an atmosphere where we have the space to meet and review the battles with maps and photos and try to get the perspective of others about what happened at specific places and times. Be sure to bring the material you have so that others in your unit can have the opportunity to compare notes.

I believe the location (next to the Atlanta airport) is well positioned. I know the hotel is a good one because I have been to a few conventions there, and the advance enthusiasm I have had from those who have contacted me indicates a great turnout of those who served in the 1st Brigade(S). Hotel reservations can be made now. Reunion registration material will be available before the first of the year.

Our unit and time is no longer represented in the "honorary" rolls of the active brigade. For many years a 1st Brigade (S) veteran served as Honorary Colonel and as Honorary Sergeant Major of the 327th Regiment. Without this close connection we should endeavor to continue to be well represented by nominating those who should be Distinguished Members of the Regiment and attending Brigade functions. 2/502 veterans, I believe, continue to have one of their own as Honorary Sergeant Major of the 502nd Regiment.

I have been having trouble keeping the web site on line. The site is on the server of a Hopkinsville, KY, computer company and I believe they are making a concerted effort. If things do not improve there I will move and hope for better service.

The 60th Annual Reunion in Tampa was great! The Reunion Committee and volunteers did a great job of making us welcome and managing a smooth running reunion. It appeared that the whole chapter was at work and the numbers and efficiency made for a wonderful visit to Tampa.

The passing of General William C. Westmoreland was a very sad occurrence for me. He was the most supportive officer I ever worked for. As Commanding General of the 101st Airborne Division he set a standard that many subsequent commanders worked hard to maintain. His calm and intellectual approach to crisis was a hallmark. His interest in the brigade and admiration of the achievements of our units in combat were a legacy veterans of the 1st Brigade (S) should always be proud of.

This issue has many more obituaries than I would like. I hope you noticed that most of the notification of deaths of 1st Brigade veterans came from readers. Along with stories of exploits in Viet Nam and photos from your tour, or tours, in the brigade please let me know when one of our veterans dies and send an obituary if possible.



*(L to R) Ivan Worrell and Major Gregory W. Bishop posed for this photo before the Week of the Eagles 327th Infantry Regiment DMOR ceremony during the 2005 Week of the Eagles celebration at Fort Campbell. Major Bishop is the Public Affairs Officer for the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault). The new brigade structure makes the present organization look much like the 1st Brigade (Separate) did in Viet Nam. All the support units and special staff required to operate independently are assigned, not attached. MAJ Bishop has been very helpful in identifying active duty soldiers in photos and offering cooperation when it is needed. Major Bishop's wife took this photo in the 1st Brigade Conference Room.*

The front cover art "COMMUNICATE" was appropriated from INFANTRY magazine where it was used in an article about communication security and lack of communication security in Viet Nam.





## BG(R) John W. Collins, III



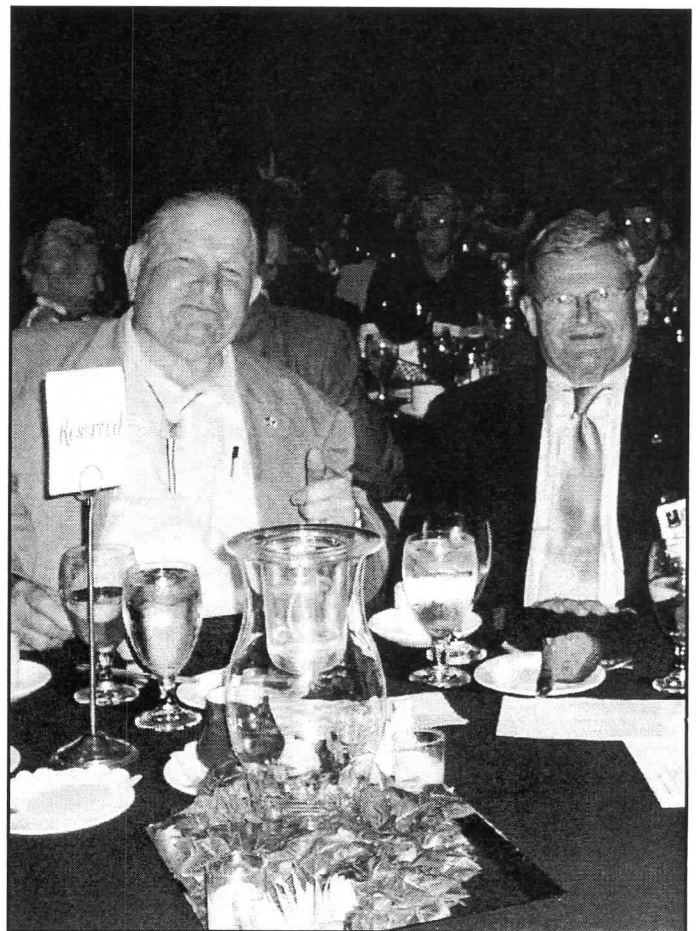
BG(R) John W. Collins, III [DCO 7-12/67 CO 12/67-7/68] who lives in San Antonio, TX, was the Brigade Commander of the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade (S) when the brigade was absorbed into the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division at the end of January 1968. He continued as Brigade Commander until July of 1968.

He served, in Europe, during WWII in the 423<sup>rd</sup> Regiment of the 106th Division as a platoon leader and Company Executive Officer. After post war schools he served three years as an Assistant Military Attaché in China where his two daughters were born. After attending the Advance Course at Fort Benning he commanded two battalions in Korea during 1953 and 1954. After more schools, a Master's Degree in Business Administration and more staff assignments he was assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade (S), 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division in May of 1967 as Deputy Commanding Officer. He returned to Korea in 1969 to serve as Assistant Division

Commander of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division and was promoted to Brigadier General in July of 1970. His last assignment was as Chief, Military Advisory Group to Ethiopia. On his return to Washington he retired in July of 1973.

General Collins said "my greatest accomplishment is the fact that I commanded an infantry platoon, company, battalion and brigade plus was ADC of an infantry division."

He hopes one of the veterans of the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade (S) will be interested in taking on the responsibility of being Reunion Chairman for the 2008 11<sup>th</sup> Biennial Reunion. Those who are interested should contact General Collins. His home address is: 210 Hillview Drive, San Antonio, TX 78209-2205, phone (210) 824-2319 (office) or (210) 822-0873 (home).



BG(R) John W. Collins, III [DCO 7-12/67 CO 12/67-7/68] and COL(R) Othar J. Shalikashvili [2/502 HQ 67] at the Saturday night banquet ending the 2004 reunion in Phoenix, Arizona. (Roger John pix)

# COL (R) EDMOND P. ABOOD



## Army Col. Edmond Abood; Honored for Heroism in War

**The Washington Post**, Saturday, June 25, 2005; Page B07  
Edmond P. Abood, 78, a retired Army colonel who received the Distinguished Service Cross for heroism in the Vietnam War and later did extensive contracting work for the Defense Department, died June 19 at a hospital in Boca Raton, Fla. He had cancer.

Col. Abood joined the Army in 1944 and was a combat rifleman in Europe during World War II. Later, he was a combat infantry commander during the Korean War and an Army Rangers instructor.

In the early 1960s, he had a role in changing the 101st Airborne Division from a parachute infantry division to a helicopter-borne assault division. He served three combat tours in Vietnam, where he commanded three battalions of the 101st Airborne.

His Distinguished Service Cross, the highest award for bravery after the Medal of Honor, came for his heroism in action Aug. 13, 1967, when he was commanding an airborne infantry battalion on a helicopter assault mission far into enemy territory. He directed that the helicopters fly low, risking heavy ground fire to make direct strikes against enemy targets. Several helicopters were shot down, and his craft suffered hits. But he and his men landed at the designated place.

On the ground, he moved to avoid sniper fire while directing a team to extinguish a fire started by a smoke grenade in nearby

elephant grass. He ignored enemy machine-gun fire and shrapnel to evacuate a soldier suffering from smoke inhalation and another overcome by heat exposure.

Through the night, he continued to repel enemy forces and direct a move to safer ground -- all the while exposing himself to enemy fire and rallying his men.

His other awards included four awards of the Legion of Merit, two awards of the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart and eight awards of the Air Medal. In 1999, he was inducted into the Army Rangers Hall of Fame.

Edmond Peter Abood was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., to Lebanese immigrants.

He was a 1950 graduate of Pennsylvania Military College, where he was co-captain of the football team.

He also boxed and played football for the Army after Korean War duty. He also was a graduate of the Army Command and General Staff College and the Army War College.

His post-Vietnam service included an assignment to the NATO international staff. He represented the alliance in negotiations with the Warsaw Pact in Vienna to reduce conventional military forces.

His final active-duty assignment, in 1981, was with the Joint Chiefs of Staffs as chief of the European division. This portfolio included policy, plans and operations affecting U.S. troops in Europe.

In retirement, he was a contract employee working for the undersecretary of defense for policy from 1982 to 1998. He was responsible for developing policy and providing advice on operations in national reconnaissance, covert action and psychological operations. He also was responsible for Defense Department support of Radio and TV Marti, which transmit anti-Castro broadcasts to Cuba.

He was a recipient of the Secretary of Defense Medal for Outstanding Public Service, an award rarely bestowed on contractors.

He was a Fairfax City resident and at his death was visiting his only immediate survivor, a sister, Lorraine Azrak of Boca Raton.

*Editor's Note: George W. Aux, Jr. [2/320 FA HHB,A,B 1/67-8/68] sent me a clip of The Washington Post obituary of COL(R) Edmond P. Abood [2/327 CO 67] that was published on June 25th 2005. Ed served as Executive Officer of the 1/327 before taking command of 2/327. On May 1st, 1971, he assumed command of the 101st Airborne Division Support Command.*

## COLONEL EDMOND ABOOD IN THE RANGER HALL OF FAME

Colonel Edmond Abood is inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame for military and civilian service to the Nation, spanning 7 years. His extraordinary career, which included service during World War II, Vietnam, the Cold War, and numerous other periods of world crisis and international tension garnered respect from both military and civilian authorities at the highest levels within the United States Government. His service and heroic actions were recognized with numerous awards





including the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit (3OLC), Bronze Star Medal with "V" (2OLC), and Purple Heart. He was the epitome of a Ranger while assigned to the Ranger Department at Fort Benning, Georgia. His outstanding abilities as a Ranger instructor were recognized throughout the community. He went on to solidify this reputation as a Ranger while in command of an airborne infantry battalion in Vietnam. The outcome of his heroic actions in August of 1967 resulted in the saving of numerous lives and successful accomplishment of the mission. He was ultimately awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for his valorous actions. He continued to serve his nation after retiring from the Army by serving as an advisor within the Office of the Secretary of Defense. His insight and wisdom while developing policies or procedures for matters involving National Security were unparalleled. Colonel Abood is the classic example of a United States Army Ranger.

**RANGER LEAD THE WAY!!!**

**HEADQUARTERS  
UNITED STATES ARMY VIETNAM  
APO San Francisco 96375**

GENERAL ORDERS                      28 September 1967  
NUMBER 4968

AWARD OF THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

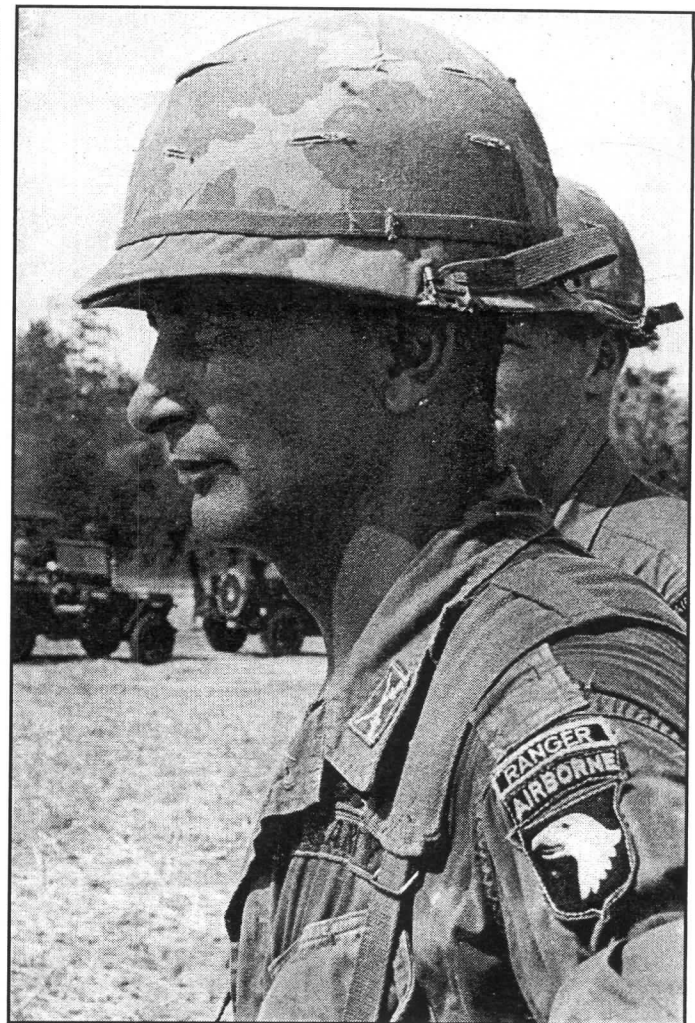
ABOOD, EDMOND P 089022 LIEUTENANT COLONEL  
INFANTRY United States Army Headquarters and  
Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 327th Infantry, 1st  
Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, APO 96347

**Awarded:** Distinguished Service Cross

**Date action:** 13 August 1967

**Theater:** Republic of Vietnam

**Reason:** For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam: Lieutenant Colonel Abood distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 13 August 1967 while serving as Commanding Officer of an airborne infantry battalion on an airmobile assault mission deep in hostile territory. During the assault, Colonel Abood flew low through heavy ground fire to mark the landing zone and direct air strikes on enemy positions. Several helicopters were shot down and his craft received numerous hits, but he continued to brave intense Viet Cong machine gun fire until all elements had landed. Once on the ground, he moved through sniper fire to designate defensive positions to his men. A smoke grenade set the dry elephant grass in the area ablaze, but he exposed himself time after time to withering volleys to organize fire fighting teams and stop the approaching flames. A short time later enemy tracers started a fire around his artillery position on an adjacent hill. Completely ignoring machine gun fire and flying shrapnel, he moved to the position to direct evacuation of his men. He single handedly rescued a man overcome by the



**BLACK PANTHER**

*Lt. Colonel Abood CO 2/327*

*(67-316-21) US Army Photo by SP4 William P. Singley, 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div IO, APO 96347, Tel Strike 109*

heat and carried him to safety. Throughout the night he moved along the perimeter fully exposed to enemy fire to direct his men in repelling repeated hostile probes. Mortar rounds and rifle fire struck all around him, but he remained in the open encouraging his men. In the morning he directed exfiltration operations of his men to a more secure area. Throughout the evacuation he constantly remained exposed to persistent sniper fire all around him. His courageous actions and leadership prevented loss of men or equipment to the insurgents. Lieutenant Colonel Abood's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

**Authority:** By direction of the President under the provisions of the Act of Congress, approved 25 July 1963.

**Special instructions:** This award supersedes the award of the Silver Star to Lieutenant Colonel Edmond P. Abood, 089022, for action on 13 August 1967, as announced in General Orders Number 427, Headquarters, Task Force Oregon (Provisional), dated 29 August 1967.





## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

578740675 flllddlldldldldldldldldldldldldldldll

### MESSAGES FROM THE 101stabndiv1stbrigade.com WEB SITE GUEST BOOK

MICHAEL A. GATTS, B 2/502 66-68  
Antioch, CA  
mgatts@laccess.net

Was with B Co 2/502 4th platoon from '66 to '68. Please note my new email address, Love to hear from some of my brothers. STRIKE FORCE

---

GREG SCHON, 2/502 HHC RTO 65-66  
Hampton, VA  
GREGORY.SCHON@MED.VA.GOV

HHC 2/502 RTO 65-66. Happy Fathers Day to all!! AIRBORNE!

*Editor's note: I do not have a mailing address for Greg and have asked him, via e-mail, to send me his address.*

---

FEDERICO CASTILLO  
El Paso, TX  
fcastillo84@hotmail.com

My name is Federico Castillo Jr., my father, passed away on Feb. 68; he was the recipient of two Purple Heart medals during his two Viet Nam tours. My father's family can only tell me that he was with the 101st Airborne Div. and had served in Viet Nam during 64-65 and 66-67. I don't have any more details. He was from a small town, Fabens TX, if anybody out there remembers Fred Castillo please send an e-mail. PROUD TO BE AN AMERICAN!!!

*Editor's note: If you remember Fred Castillo please contact his son.*

---

## E-MAIL MESSAGES

RICHARD E. BELL, 501st Signal Battalion  
lorebel@netzero.net  
Sent: Jun 26, 2005  
Subject: Search for 501st Signal Battalion Veterans

Fellow Troopers,

May I introduce myself; I am Richard E. Bell, veteran of the 101st Abn Div and the 501st Signal Battalion. I have asked in the past for a listing of the 501st Sig Bn members of the association and have been told they cannot provide me a list. Therefore I am asking you for assistance, if you have members of your chapters that are veterans of the 501st Sig Bn, I would appreciate it if you could provide me with their address and any other information you may have.

I look forward to hearing from you in the very near future.

All the Way,  
Richard

Ivan Worrell wrote:  
Subject: Re: Search for 501st Signal Battalion Veterans

Are you looking for all veterans of the 501st Signal Bn.? When did you serve in the 501st?

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2005  
lorebel@netzero.net  
To: worrell@usit.net  
Subject: Re: Search for 501st Signal Battalion Veterans

Ivan,

I served with the 501st Sig Bn, from 1960 to 1962, and I am searching for all who have served with the 501st Sig Bn.

Richard

*Editor's Note: If you know of 501st Signal veterans please contact Richard.*

---

CHRISTINA WARD  
<boulevardensemblestudiotheatre@yahoo.com> is seeking information about her father Sp/5 Robert "Doc" Ward 2/327 "A" 1965-66 who passed away on December 23, 1999. His family would appreciate any info about him, his time, comrades, etc.

*Editor's Note: This e-mail was received from Yankee Jim Simchera (2/327 A 9/69-9/70) <YankeeJim@screamingeagles-327thvietnam.com>*

---

Subject: BASTOGNE Site's Web Master wants your help  
YANKEE JIM SIMCHERA, 2/327 A 9/69-9/70  
6542 Bill Lundy Rd., Laurel Hill, FL 32567  
(850) 689-1574  
yankeej@cyo.com

As you know www.bastogne.org <<http://www.bastogne.org/>> is the web site rally point for the new 327th Infantry Regimental Association. Web Master, Eli Haggins (A 2/327 7/65-4/66) has been building the site since last fall. He is now ready to accept your pictures and stories. This site covers all eras of the 327th Regiment, past, present and out into the



future. We need material from everyone who ever served or who had family that served. If you haven't visited the site you will be pleased when you do. The Regiment's early history is well documented, starting with its WW I service as part of the 82nd. The sad part is our founding Brothers have all made their RENDEZVOUS with DESTINY and in fact so have many of our WW II GLIDER RIDERS. It is nearly impossible for us to collect and preserve their eyewitness to the history they wrote. I ask you to step up and help us preserve your history. Whenever you served in the regiment, whether peace time or war you are part of its history. Check out the site and before you leave please sign the Guest Book.

Honor and Country!  
Yankee Jim

Send your material to  
Eli@screamingeagles-327thvietnam.com

---

#### COMPILED FROM E-MAIL RECEIVED

Thomas L. Crabtree [2/327 C 5/67-9/67] 903 West Kansas Ave, Midland, TX 79701, (432) 682-0229, e-mail mmctlc3@aol.com is looking for a friend from Viet Nam. He came to C 2/327th May 67 from the 1st Cav-C 1/12 (Airborne); they were phasing out all Airborne Troops in 1st BDE who still had time remaining in country and drawing jump pay preparing to go to Cav Airmobile. He rotated back in Oct 67 to Bragg, Co B 2d/504th. Does not remember many of the people in C 2/327 during his short time w/them and is searching for Thomas P. Zeigler who was from West Pasadena, CA.

---

+ JOHN PAGEL 2ND, 1/327 B 5/65-1/66  
803 Millburgh Ave., Glendora, CA 91740-5442  
(626) 331-4010  
tfosoca@msn.com  
Sent: Friday, July 08, 2005 10:51 AM  
To: Jim & Patti Simchera  
Subject: HAPPY ANNIVERSERY

To all the "BOAT PEOPLE"

Tomorrow July 9th marks 40 years since we sailed out of Alameda Navy yard aboard the Eltinge. To all who made the trip and came back "WELCOME HOME", to those whose names are engraved on the Memorial in Washington -- you'll never be forgotten by those who served with you.

John E. Pagel 2nd, B 1/327

---

ADAM DUNAWAY, 1/327 HHQ 61-66  
1040 Irwin St., Belmont, CA 94002  
work (650) 723-1507 home (650) 532-1978  
adunaway@stanford.edu  
Sent: Friday, July 08, 2005 3:58 PM  
To: Jim Simchera  
Subject: Re: HAPPY 40th ANNIVERSARY 327th Boat People

Brother John,

Since I had the distinct honor to keep the stairwell, down to the ship's galley clean every day while aboard, this Saturday I'll go out and hose down the city street in front of my house in memory.

Cheers, Adam  
HHQ 2/327th 65-67

---

+ CW3(R) WILLIAM J. KELLER, 2/327 HQ(S-4) 6/65-7/66  
8032 East Hayne St., Tucson, AZ 85710-4213  
(520) 886-8004  
BKe2076635@aol.com  
Sent: Sunday, July 10, 2005 6:02 PM  
Subject: CHALLENGE COINS

I am attempting to figure out some things about the challenge – unit coins?

When I retired in May 1975, to the best of my knowledge these coins were not out yet or they were very scarce?

I am under the impression that the coins are passed out as a reward to troops for something special that they accomplished? Unit commanders and SGT Majors were given the coins to be passed out in this manner, is this true? Some coins are given when you join and/or depart a unit.

I recall in Korea in 1971 being assigned to the 17th Infantry, it was a common practice to drink a shot of flaming rum and catch a buffalo nickel with your teeth. If some one asked for your coin and you did not have it, you had to purchase a round of drinks.

Can anyone help with info on this?

Bill Keller

---

JEFF PAIGE, 1/327 HHQ TF 9/67-10/69  
Box 327, Washington, MI 48094  
jeffpaige@cox.net  
Sent: Sunday, July 10, 2005 8:46 PM  
To: Yankee Jim  
Subject: Re: CHALLENGE COINS

Challenge coins have been around for a long time. They may be passed out by Commanders/SGMs upon joining or leaving a unit or upon a special occasion or purchased at a base museum. When presented they are usually numbered. I have one from the SWC that is numbered. The men of the Viet Nam Tiger Force were presented coins from the current Tiger Force in 2000 at Fort Campbell.

The challenge is to show your coin to identify yourself as a current or past unit member. As you said, in some cases if you do not have your coin you buy the round.

Not sure what other history is available or other practices using the coin.

---

WILLIAM HALL, 1/327 A 67-68  
3736 Misty Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76133  
(817) 370-0125  
billk75@hotmail.com  
Sent: Sunday, July 10, 2005 10:38 PM  
To: YankeeJim@screamingeagles-327thvietnam.com  
Subject: RE: CHALLENGE COINS

I received a 1/327 (or 327) Challenge coin sometime in 67 or 68. I took it home and had some kind of finish put on it and had it set so that I could wear it on a chain around my neck. I don't know what I was thinking. Anyway I probably wore it twice and it went to my memento drawer. Somewhere during a pcs move from somewhere in the world or another I lost it. It was as big as a silver dollar and had the 327 crest on one side and I believe jump wings on the other.

Bill Hall ABU ATR/NS

---

+ CLAUDE FRISBIE, 1/327 A 7/66-2/68  
175 Springton Rd., Glenmoore, PA 19343-1106  
work (610) 363-0200 home (610) 942-3769  
cfrisbie@westwhiteland.org  
Sent: Monday, July 11, 2005 9:18 AM  
To: Yankee Jim  
Subject: Re: CHALLENGE COINS

I have my original 101st coin given to me after my first tour of duty in 1967 Also have a 101st coin given to me when I attended a dinner with eight members of the original Band of Brothers of 506th. Have the 327's from our web site PX and have a 1oz. silver 101st coin.

Friz

---

+ R. PAT NOONAN, 2/327 A 10/65-10/66  
3477 Township Ave., Simi Valley, CA 93063  
(805) 584-9730  
Tuck001@adelphia.net  
Sent: Monday, July 11, 2005 6:28 PM  
Subject: Re: Two more: CHALLENGE COINS

Being one of the group of first replacements for the Boat People, never serving as a garrison soldier, we never heard of challenge coins or a lot of other things that were "tradition" stateside.

I never heard of a challenge coin till our first reunion at Ft Campbell, Kentucky, that was originated by Rich Montgomery and Bruce Masters... a lot of things that were done as a tradition or T.O.N.E slipped thru the cracks after the originals DEROSSED...At the time the rifle companies were running on the basic's... The realization of this didn't illuminate until I

reached stateside with all the rules, traditions and what seemed needless repetitive drilling ...PAT NOONAN A 2/327 OCT 65 TO OC6 66

---

*Editor's Note: This report on beer for A company was part of some e-mail messages about Army Talk in Viet Nam. I will try to put the Army Talk messages together for a later edition.*

+ R. PAT NOONAN, 2/327 A 10/65-10/66  
3477 Township Ave., Simi Valley, CA 93063  
(805) 584-9730  
Tuck001@adelphia.net  
Sent: Sunday, July 17, 2005 10:47 PM

Before Capt Furgeson became our company commander a decent brand of beer was unheard of, in the rear all we could get was Black Label, Red Cap and the Green Death Ballentines what ever the rear area guys didn't want.

The Captain got a hold of our Supply Sergeant, they had some discussion and after that it was Bud, Falstaff, Hamms, Crown and San Miguel; it was like we died and went to heaven!!! The ice only lasted about ten minutes then it was warm beer but who cared, it was beer...morale greatly improved amongst the men of "A" Company, in fact guys from B and C Company would come to our beer tent.

The 1st Sergeant tried to make us a E/M Club out of a parachute and wood; it lasted one night and got destroyed. It really pissed the 1st Sergeant off!! I still remember him hollering at reveille, "I try to do something nice for you bastards but you guys don't appreciate anything!" After that beer was gotten at the supply tent, with guards.

Capt Furgeson cared about his people. A Company at that time was one tight group of people from the lowest private to the company commander... GOD BLESS THEM ALL... PAT NOONAN 65 / 66

---

JOHNLENE WILLIAMS  
jojo196323@hotmail.com  
Sent: Monday, August 01, 2005 1:19 PM  
To: hannibal@screamingeagles-327thvietnam.com  
Subject: C 1/327 101st Abn Div

I am trying to help my brother locate a friend from the C 1/327 101st Abn Div -- years are 67-69. Also is there a reunion for them anywhere? He's looking for a Harold Roberson that served with him too. Wondering if maybe you can help him find his old buddies. My brother's name is Don Makuta. If you can tell him any info that might help please let me know.

---

*Editor's Note: I do not have address information on Don Makuta and do not have a Harold Roberson in my database. Can anyone help? See reunion notice on page 34.*



Subject: Looking for Paul Apfel and Dave Pinson  
+ JESSE RUDER, 2/502 HHC 5/65-6/66  
912 E. Meadowmere Lane, Austin, TX 78758-5808  
jhruder@earthlink.net  
Date: Mon, 25 Jul 2005 16:45: 03 -0500

Ivan,

As a member of the First Bde from 1964-1966 and a lucky passenger on the Good Ship Lollipop (AKA the Leroy Eltinge), I seek your help in finding two of my friends from those times.

In your July 2005 issue of The First Screaming Eagles in Viet Nam, I saw Paul's (Apfel) name on a letter concerning Hack on page 3. Can you provide contact information for me? I would be most grateful. I would also like to find Dave Pinson as well. I have made several search attempts, so far without much success. Please help if you can.

I will close with a big, well-earned pat on your airborne back for helping us remember those very special times and the magnificent men we were honored to know and serve with.

**Editor's Note: I don't have either of these men in my database. Can anyone help?**

---

CAUSEY, WINDLE R MAJ, 1/327 B 66-67  
P.O. Box 113, Tennessee Ridge, TN 37178  
windle.causey@us.army.mil  
To: davidj@screamingeagles-327thvietnam.com  
Sent: Friday, September 02, 2005 2:30 PM  
Subject: 2nd Life

Comrades: Just wanted to let all you guys from B 1/327 '66-67: I'm back on active duty. Got recalled in May (05) and currently in Korea on Operation Ulchi Focus Lens 05. What an honor to serve with these "grand kids." I wasn't able to get back to the Screaming Eagles, (my home) but thankful for another opportunity to serve our great nation in uniform again.

Formerly SGT Causey, Recon Sgt, B 1/327 "Above the Rest"

Windle Ray Causey  
Major, Field Artillery  
32d AAMDC  
Fort Bliss, Texas

---

**Editor's Note: Another report from the 327 communicators.**

From: Dewbabydoll@aol.com  
To: davidj@screamingeagles-327thvietnam.com  
Cc: dewbaby63@yahoo.com  
Sent: Monday, August 22, 2005 9:00 PM  
Subject: PVT Charles W. Stevens

I am hoping that you may be of some help in reference to my Uncle Charles W. Stevens. He was with the A Co 1/327th Infantry Regiment during Vietnam, he died Oct 03 1965 so



said from the website and that it was a non-battle death, small arms fire near An Khu. Florida has him listed as a POW/KIA and another casualty report has him committing suicide (which we know for a fact is not so) for reasons we are unsure of. We have conflicting testaments from various sources and which none of them are the same. Even his tombstone states information that is different. If you could possibly shed some light on this matter so that my family and I can put him to peace it would be of great gratitude not only for his Honor but the families memories as well. Any photos that you may be able to bring to light would also be greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance with all your help in this matter. We would like the truth...

Again Thanks

Juanita Kay Cyr  
C/O PFC Charles Wayne Stevens  
and Family

---

+ MAJ(R) FRED M. WHITE, 2/327 C&A 8/67-8/68  
3 Fairway Drive, Elizabethtown, KY 42701  
(270) 765-4483  
fmwhite@kvnet.org

Ivan, I received your inquiry and was a bit surprised. It really is a small world. I recently met (in a bar) an ex trooper whose first name is Lee. He claimed he had a friend who was really good at locating former troopers even if the spelling might not be accurate. At that point I mentioned a young soldier (not a NCO) who lost a leg with C Company, 2nd 327 in the fall of 67. I do not remember the spelling of his last name, but we called him Alphabet. He was from Wisconsin and if you spell his name as it sounded it would be Glowcheski, although I know that spelling is not correct. In any event, I would love to make contact with him if anyone might know his whereabouts. I don't recall his rank but it was E4 or below. Thanks

JERALD W. "JERRY" BERRY, 3/506 A&HHC 6/67-10/68  
438 Manor Drive, Libby, MT 59923-9364  
work (406) 295-4693 home (406) 293-7678  
jerryberry@currahee.org

Jerry Berry wrote: I have a Cpt. Fred White 2/327th 67/68 wanting to locate his close friend who lost his leg in Vietnam. His name is (E6 or E7) Sgt. Glowclaski or something sounding like that. Can you help me find him. We are not sure about the spelling, but with his rank being E6 or E7, it shouldn't be that hard to find. Any help will be greatly appreciated, Screaming Eagle.

Jerry in Montana

---

**Editor's Note: Edited message from Yankee Jim's mail. Anyone who knew Doc Torrance please contact his daughter Kimberly Jones by Email <kjones@ethicorps.com>**

GERRY STESIAK

To: frazierlg@ctos.com

Cc: Kimberly Jones

Sent: Tuesday, August 02, 2005 12:54 PM

Subject: Inquiry

Larry, I am attempting to gain some information on an old deceased fellow airborne medic of mine by the name of Freddy Lee Torrance. Freddie and I served together for about one year at Fort Campbell, in the 1/501st. Freddy was transferred to the 101st in early 1966. The 1/501 was subsequently changed to become the 4/503rd of the 173rd. It was reported Freddy died of a heart-attack in Vietnam. And according to his daughter, Kimberly Jones, Freddy was, at the time of his death, assigned to HHC of the 327th. Below you can glean some further information provided by his daughter. Freddy Lee Torrance -- born: March 24, 1947, home town: Syracuse, NY, died: July 6, 1966 in Phu Yen Prov., PFC 101st Airborne, HHC 1/327th Infantry, "Tiger Force." Also identified as with 173rd at some point Paratrooper Medic.

Gerry Stesiak, Secretary Society of The 173d Airborne Brigade

From: "elizabeth kornatowski" <bege@frontiernet.net >

To: "Larry Frazier" <frazierlg@ctos.com >

Sent: Sunday, August 07, 2005

This in reply to Kimberly Jones by "little ski" Gary Kornatowski. I served with your father in Viet Nam and I can tell you he was a great medic. He saved a lot of lives while there before his heart attack. I wasn't there when he had his attack but word spread quickly because he was so liked by so many of the soldiers. I remember him well. He used to carry more supplies than most of the other medics. If I had gotten injured I would have wanted him to be the medic to have taken care of me. Other than that my memory fails me of other details because I tend to forget. It was so many years ago. Little Ski

## FROM U.S. POSTAL SERVICE

+ COL EDWARD P. KANE, U.S.A.(Ret), 326 ENGR A 4/67-4/68, 1501 Morgan Lane, Wayne, PA 19087-1112, work (610) 989-1350, home (610) 889-7580 wrote: Finally getting around to thanking you for all you do to continue, indeed help perpetuate, the legacy of our time in RVN with the 1st Bde, 101st Abn.

It's also a time to contribute. In your very first issue (July 1998) you had a great map on the back cover depicting the sequential sojourns of the "Nomads of Vietnam," indicating the final stop as Chu Lai. I don't know the exact date of the orders that absorbed the 1st Bde back into the Division (perhaps you know?). In my mind the history of the 1st Brigade (Separate) ended with the departure of General Matheson and that occurred in Song Be (III Corps). I think that was sometime in January 1968. Enclosed photo was taken at General Mat's farewell ceremony as he says goodbye to the staff. At the time (far right in photo) I was Cdr, A Co, 326th Engr Bn, and prob-

ably the youngest company commander in the Brigade. Soon thereafter we headed up north to Hue/Phu Bai/Camp Eagle as part of the Tet Counteroffensive.

I must of course state that General Matheson was a tremendous combat leader and I will forever consider myself fortunate to have served under him.

Best regards to you, Ivan. Keep the flame burning.....



*Editor's Note: BG(R) John W. Collins [DCO 7-12/67 CO 12/67-7/68] was, I believe, the final commander of the 1st Brigade (S). He assumed command of the brigade in December 1967 and the brigade was absorbed into the division in late January.*

+ MAJ(R) W.E. GROVES, HHC (AG) 6/66-5/67, 576 Coast Oak Circle, Lawrenceville, GA 30045-6114 work (770) 963-9266, home (770) 963-9947 when becoming a new subscriber sent the following: I appreciate the information you past on to me. And yes, you did send it before. I had intended to follow up but failed to do so...I am enclosing an order for the magazine, a cap and the decal.

Personal info/history: I realize that you have seen a lot of names and faces over the years, but I remember you and your staff at Fort Campbell during the 64-65-time period very well. I can't remember the NCO's name, but Mrs. M. Chamberlain was the secretary. At that time I was a SFC (E-7), Chief of Personal Action Section, (AG). LTC Ruby was the AG and Major Joe Blanco was Chief of Personnel Service Division. I was fortunate enough to make Solider of the Year (1965) 101st ABN/Fort Campbell. Later that year, received a commission as a 2d Lt with assignment to the 1st Brigade 101st (Vietnam), arriving in country in May 1966. Served with Brigade Hqs as the AG forwarded for six months (Dakto, Tuy Hoa, Van Theit); then returned to base camp in Phang Rang, leaving country in May 1967.

With a couple of years with the 82nd (Ltc Joe Blanco-AG), Adjutant General Career Course, three years with a MAAG in Ethiopia and four years Administrative/Logistics Officer, recruiting command, I retired a Major on November 1976.

I have lost track of most of the folks who were with the 1st Brigade. Names like Major Bill Horgan, Major Ed Strong, Chief Warrant Officer Jones. All were members of the AG Section in Phang Rang during the 66-67 time frame.

My last account of Joe Blanco was that he retired a full Colonel and was living in Texas. However, his health was failing and I have not been able to make contact in recent times.

I do subscribe to THE STATIC LINE publication and pick up some info about the 101st from time to time. But do put me on the list for the magazine. Again, thanks for the reminder. Airborne.....

---

+ SFC(R) JOHN BURKE, JR., 2/327 C 12/65-12/66, 11305 N. 51st St. Apt. G2, Tampa, FL 33617-2733 after attending the annual 101st Airborne Division Association Reunion held in Tampa in August wrote: It was a great reunion! I always hate to leave them. You asked me to tell you about Sgt Charles Blanco – he was a marine first and then decided the airborne was a better choice. SSGT Sam Snyder (B Co. 502), Spt Billy Sanders (C 2/327), Blanco and myself were all in the same platoon in Germany – 504-509 Abn. Blanco got killed Sept 66 (C Co. 502). He was very short. I still miss him. We were close for three years.

---

-----Original Message-----

Ron Egan, 1/327 B 67-68  
7014 S. Rawson Bridge Rd.  
Cary, IL 60013-1752  
ronegan@ameritech.net  
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 11:49 AM  
To: Jim Simchera  
Subject: Pop Gerhard's Memorial Service

In accordance with his wishes, Pop's remains have already been cremated and now rest in an urn engraved with his name, a 101st patch, and B/1/327 INF 1 BDE 101 ABN DIV.

His Memorial Service was held on Tuesday, July 5th at: Bangor Vet Center, 352 Harlow St., Bangor ME 04401.

*Editor's Note: See obituaries on page 11 of the July 2005 magazine.*

---

*Editor's Note: A late note from Larry Redmond about the funeral of "Black Panther." I have added unit designation and dates in country to some of the names. See story on pages 2 and 3.*

From: A327NoSlack@aol.com [mailto:A327NoSlack@aol.com]  
Sent: Wednesday, September 14, 2005 8:02 AM  
Subject: Funeral for COL Ed Abood

Last Wednesday and Thursday Mary and I attended the wake and funeral at Arlington National Cemetery for COL Edmund P. Abood, call sign Black Panther, Commander 2-327 NFS, Nam 67.

It proved to be a fitting send off to a great old soldier. Carlos Melendez (LTC(R))HHC AVN 66-67), Gene Perry (2/327 HHC 7/67-7/68 Hard Core) and I had lunch with Ed in Boca Raton just about 5 weeks before he succumbed to cancer, kidney problems and just old age. He was in fine fettle then and we both will remember him that way.

The Wake and Funeral were well attended. Ed had served in the 1-327 with Dave Hackworth (COL(R)) 1/327 HQ 63-66), then went on to command the 2-327. Among those in attendance from our gang were: Herb Williams (COL(R)) 2/327 A&B 7/67-6/68), Jess Myers (2/327 HHC&C 6/67-6/68), John Miller (LTG(R)) 2/327 B 67-68), Rich Luttrell (2/327 A 4/67-3/68), Terry Wren (2/327 A 4/67-2/68), Joe Berry (2/327 A 12/67-8/69), Robby Robertson, Dr. RIP Porter (COL(R)) 2/327 HHQ 4/67-4/68 No Slack Quack), Bob Crosby (LTC(R)) 2/327 C 3/67-3/68), George Fallon (2/327 Hawks 1/67-1/68), Sava Stepanovitch (2/327 HHC no dates listed), Othar Shalikashvili (COL(R)) 2/502 HQ 67), John Lawton (COL(R)) 2/327 A 66-10/67), Carlos Melendez, and I am sure I have missed someone but my midget memory isn't what it used to be.

The OLD GUARD, was as usual superb in carrying out their duties. They are in a class by themselves and it is a moving moment to watch the Caisson, Horses, Band, Escort Party and Riderless Horse with boots turned backward wend its way through the "Garden of Stone" to the soldiers final resting place.

Another WW II paratrooper icon has made his last Manifest Call.

God Bless him.

Larry Redmond (COL(R)) 2/327 A 5/67-2/68)  
President, 101st Airborne Division Association  
A327NoSlack

---

-----Original Message-----

TOM JOYCE, 1/327 A 4/65-7/66  
143 Barron St., Friedens, PA 15541  
(814) 443-0658  
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2005 8:18 AM  
Subject: New address

Hi All,

Please send e-mails to <abu327thvn@yahoo.com>. Changing computers.

Also, for those of you that know about my heart attack, I have started cardiac rehab this week and right now I am doing ok. I will pay attention to docs orders. God gave me a second chance to do it right. So I will follow him.

Thanks for all of your prayers and concerns.

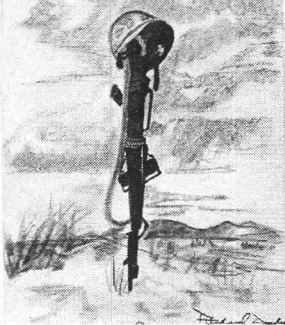
Tom Joyce

---

+ = Current Subscriber



## OBITUARIES



**Glenn C. Hoppert**  
2/502 A 6/66-6/67

The following was sent by Michael McFadden, 2/502 A 6/66-6/67, 2864 Sloat Road, Pebble Beach, CA 93953-2627; (831) 375-7762.

At 1500 hours on July 26, John Sutor, Ben Lam and I participated in honoring Glenn Hoppert as he was laid to rest alongside other comrades in the hallowed ground of

Arlington Cemetery. Following his outstanding service in Vietnam, Glenn worked his way up the ranks of the Washington DC Police Department, was elected Representative of the Peace Officer's Association for several consecutive years, graduated from the FBI Academy and retired with the responsibility of Chief of Detectives. Glenn continued to serve the Screaming Eagles as "point man" for the 50th Anniversary of the 101st Airborne Division Association National Reunion held in Washington, DC, during a period when he assumed the responsibilities of Chapter President. He was also influential in establishing our National monument in DC which honors women veterans. It is appropriate to close with eloquent eulogy comments from two of his Vietnam comrades, which well describe Glenn's military legacy. John Sutor – "Many good men who served in Attack Company of the Strike Force with Glenn Hoppert have lived to enjoy full lives as a direct result of his efforts as a fighting man." Joe Trimble – "What distinguished Glenn from other heroes and gained for him the highest respect from his leaders and comrades was the quality of his valor. He was neither reckless nor flamboyant. His valor was the quiet, careful, calculating kind of valor that saved lives and won battles at minimum cost. Glenn aggressively sought the enemy. Glenn fought well. Glenn fought smart. We have NOT lost Glenn. He has again taken the point to lead us into the next life."



*Glenn receives a final salute from the paratrooper NCOIC of the burial detail. (Photo by Ben Lam, 2/502 HQ 65-71)*

The following obituary from *The Washington Post* was sent by Ben Lam, 2/502 HQ 65-71, 3002 Albany Court, Woodbridge, VA 22193-1208; work (703) 502-1230, home (703) 680-3692.

### **Glenn C. Hoppert; Led D.C. Criminal Investigations**

Glenn C. Hoppert, 58, a retired commander of the D.C. police

criminal investigations division, died June 17 at a hospice in Branford, Conn. He had colon cancer.

Cmdr. Hoppert began his police career in the late 1960s after serving in the Army in the Vietnam War. From 1986 to 1992, he was president of the Metropolitan Police Officials Association, which represent the D.C. departments ranking officers.

Glenn Carrol Hoppert was born in Baltimore, where his father was a firefighter. After graduating from Baltimore's City College, he served in the Army's 101st Airborne Division in the Vietnam War. His decorations included the Silver Star and the Bronze Star.

The Silver Star citation says that on Jan. 13, 1967, near Kontum, he was a member of the "point lead element" as his company moved toward high ground. Detecting an enemy ambush, he charged and killed an enemy soldier, causing other communist fighters to run away. Soon after, his company became pinned down by enemy fire. He charged through the gunfire and pitched a grenade, killing four of the enemy and causing the others to flee.



*Donna Hoppert receives Glenn's flag from the presiding Chaplain who is a recent Screaming Eagles veteran. Glenn's son Darren is seated front right. (Photo by Ben Lam, 2/502 HQ 65-71)*

"Specialist Hoppert's valorous actions resulted in the destruction of two enemy positions, five enemy killed and the saving of several American lives," the citation says.

He was a former president of the 101st Airborne Division Association's National Capital Area Chapter.

He moved to Shelton, Conn., from Columbia in 2000. In retirement, he played at local golf tournaments on the Eastern Shore and in Connecticut.

His marriage to Joan Lowenthal Hoppert ended in divorce. A son from that marriage, Steven Hoppert, died in 2003.

Survivors include his wife of 12 years, Donna Rothert Hoppert of Shelton, Conn.; a son from the first marriage, Darren Hoppert of Laurel; two stepsons, Adam Farver of West Palm Beach, Fla., and Andrew Farver of New York; a brother, Charles Hoppert of Cumberland, Md.; and two sisters, Virginia Spurrier of Sarasota, Fla., and Kathryn Haas of Yorktown, Va.



**Above and beyond**  
**Bravery and sacrifice**

By Jim Tice - TIMES STAFF WRITER

When Melvin Garten awoke in the recovery ward at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in 1966, it was apparent even to this most determined of warriors that he had fought in his last war. The much-decorated infantry officer had been in a coma for three weeks. The last thing he remembered was being on a



*Lt. Col. Melvin Garten and Lt. William Owen, 2/327, receive gifts from Gulf-Mart, San Antonio, Texas.*

long-range patrol with elements of his 101st Airborne Division battalion (2-327th Infantry) in Vietnam.

Garten had been seriously wounded before, most notably as a member of the 511th Parachute Infantry Regiment during the 1945 Battle of Luzon in the Philippines. That shoulder wound required a month in a Manila hospital.

His Vietnam wounds were of a different category. In addition to losing his left leg, Garten had numerous shell-fragment wounds that would prolong his hospital stay for nearly a year.

When the former enlisted soldier and 1943 Officer Candidate School graduate recovered enough to leave the hospital, he was assigned to Fort Bragg, N.C., as post commander.

While he was grateful to still be on active duty, Garten found those final 18 months of service painful emotionally, as he faced scenes of fellow infantrymen training and jumping from airplanes.



*Lt. Cols. Humma and Garten receive Christmas trees from Lt. Col. Dinh Viet Lang.*

“It was tough; I wanted so much to be with them,” he said from his home in Lake Oswego, Ore.

Col. Melvin Garten retired in August 1968 at age 47, after a career that

spanned 26 years, three wars and a three-month stint in jail as a prisoner of Belgian Congo rebels in 1962.

Today, he is among the nation’s most decorated living veterans.

In addition to a Distinguished Service Cross earned in Korea with K Company of the 31st Infantry Regiment, Garten has four Silver Stars, five Bronze Stars and five Purple Hearts.

Garten has strong opinions about the Purple Heart, the nation’s oldest military decoration. While there are pages of regulations governing award criteria, soldiers essentially qualify for a Purple Heart if they die or require medical treatment from a wound caused by hostile action.



“I differentiate between Purple Hearts,” Garten said.

“During my recovery from losing the leg, I had the time to write to the Joint Chiefs of Staff and tell them that my Purple Heart and the Purple Hearts earned by other people in my ward at Walter Reed should have a “V” [for valor] device on it to make a distinction from those who receive scratches and flesh wounds,” he said.

The defining criteria would be simple, according to Garten.

“The “V” medal only would go to people who are evacuated to hospitals or back to the states,” he said.

Garten said the Joint Chiefs considered his recommendation but declined to implement it because of the 200-year tradition of the medal.

Now 83, Garten said, “I still feel that way.”

His record of valor is so outstanding that it caught the attention of Army officials when he applied for enrollment in the Combat-Related Special Compensation Program, a new benefit for compensating military retirees for their war wounds.

Garten and other Army heroes who qualify for CRSC are highlighted in this story appearing in our Memorial Day issue.

“Purple Hearts are handed out for scratches, and they only should go to people who die, are hospitalized or disabled,” Garten said.



*Capt. Paul Apfel, Info O, and Lt. Col. Garten and Package No 1 from the Memphis Inter-City Council.*

**Garten, Melvin**

Captain, U.S. Army

Co. K, 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division

*Date of Action: October 30, 1952*

*Citation:*

The Distinguished Service Cross is awarded to Captain Melvin Garten, United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Korea. Captain Garten, then a member of Company K, 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division, distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy near Surang-ni, Korea, on 30 October 1952. Observing that assault elements of Companies F and G were pinned down by withering fire on a dominant hill feature, he voluntarily proceeded alone up the rugged slope and, reaching the besieged troops, found that key personnel had been wounded and the unit was without command. Dominating the critical situation through sheer force of his heroic example, he rallied approximately eight men, assigned four light machine guns, distributed grenades and, employing the principle of fire and maneuver, stormed enemy trenches and bunkers with such tenacity that the foe was completely routed and the objective secured. Quickly readying defensive positions against imminent counterattack he directed and coordinated a holding action until reinforcements arrived. Major Garten’s inspirational leadership, unflinching courage under fire and valorous actions reflect the highest credit upon himself and are in keeping with the cherished traditions of the military service.

Department of the Army General Orders No. 59 (August 4, 1953)





# TRUNG LUONG DUSTOFF

Ronald S. Martin (2/327 Att A,B,C 4/66-8/66), 11148 Big Canoe, Jasper, GA 30143-5100; (706) 268-6369 sent the following letter.

Major Ivan Worrell  
The First Screaming Eagle • P.O. Box 675  
Sweetwater, TN 37874-0675

Dear Ivan,

It has been almost 40 years since the Battle of Trung Luong. You and I have discussed our common horrible memories of the body bags lined up along the tarmac to be loaded onto a C-130 destined for Tan Son Nhut. I believe that you once printed a story about the Battle in *The First Screaming Eagle* (October 1999 issue). I cannot find my copy. I would like to tell the story of Trung Luong as seen from the eyes of a dustoff pilot supporting LTC Joseph (Wild Gypsy) Wasco's battalion.

According to *Stars and Stripes*, The Battle of Trung Luong was a three-day battle that was one of the fiercest, bloodiest and long-lasting battles of Operation Nathan Hale. On 19 Jun 1966, the 2/237th was ordered to find and engage a North Vietnamese unit of unknown size. It was believed that NVA troops were attempting to take a U.S. Special Forces base at nearby Dong Tre. Regimental intelligence reported a battalion size unit about 300 NVA regulars entrenched in an unsurpassed tunnel network. The enemy force turned-out to be of approximately regimental size (three battalions).

On 19 JUN 66, the Dustoff 49 crew from the 498th Helicopter Ambulance Company responded to an assignment to support the 2/327th Parachute Infantry Regiment (Brigade), 101st Airborne Division for medical evacuation. The Battalion was operating out of Tuy Hoa north. 1st Lt. Ron Martin was the pilot and CPT Ken Trotter was the Aircraft Commander. So far, I have been unable to find the names of the other crew members.

We had no idea what the day would bring but were told to expect relief in approximately six hours. The two crews were then to alternate every six hours. After flying about six hours with approximately one mission for each 20 minutes, we requested our expected replacement. We reported to MAJ Warren Roler, our operations officer, that one aircraft was not enough to keep up with the numerous casualties. The anticipated six-hour mission became three days, which resulted in Dustoff 49's flying approximately 36 hours without relief.

On 20 JUN alone, Dustoff 49 evacuated 107 troopers and recorded combat flight time of 18 hours. The 20 JUN evacuation of 107 troopers was a record for that time in the war, and we can find nothing to suggest that our record was ever exceeded throughout the entire Vietnam War. The crew of "Dustoff 49" recorded combat flight time of 12 hours on 19 JUN, 18 hours on 20 JUN and six to eight hours on 21 JUN.

According to many 2/327th troopers that I have talked with, Dustoff 49 was a powerful incentive to the battalion's courageous persistence to continue to destroy the enemy while sup-

pressing enemy firepower directed toward our aircraft.

On 20 JUN, "Dustoff 49" barely escaped destruction from enemy machine gun fire, which was zeroing in on our heli-



Ronald S. Martin (2/327 Att A,B,C 4/66-8/66)

copter as we were landing. The NVA machine gun nest was single-handedly destroyed by A Company commander, CPT Charles (Tom) Furgeson. CPT Furgeson's extraordinary heroic and valiant action resulted in his being awarded the Silver Star. LTC Wasco swears to this day CPT Furgeson should have received the Distinguished Service Cross.

We pushed the limits of our physical capability as we evacuated approximately 153 troopers over the three-day period. I have been unable to find out how many of the evacuees were WIA and how many were KIAs. We have never been able to determine how many more casualties were evacuated by supporting "Slicks." Just about every name on the wall in D.C. for 19, 20 and 21 JUN 66 was a 2/327th trooper.

I have met many wonderful veterans from the Battle of Trung Luong over the last 10 to 12 years. One of the wounded, Doug Field, and I met in front of a post office when he noticed the 101st patch in the rear window of my car. I have known and admired Johnnie Lindsey for years, but did not know until last





Memo: Vietnam: 25 Years Later  
First in a special report

**A VILLAGE, A HILL AND HORROR  
A TRAGIC BATTLE EARLY IN THE WAR STOOD AS  
A HARBINGER OF THINGS TO COME FOR U.S. TROOPS.**

By David Zucchini, INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

Trung Luong was a remote hamlet folded into a fertile valley in the Central Highlands of South Vietnam, not far from the South China Sea.

None of the young American soldiers who fought there, and died there, and left pieces of themselves there, had ever heard of Trung Luong until they approached the village on a brutally hot day in June 1966. Today, 25 years after the war ended and 34 years after an airborne battalion spent three unforgettable days in the hamlet, there are still very few Americans who have heard of Trung Luong.

By the time the Vietnam War ended on April 30, 1975, more than 58,000 Americans were dead and 153,000 had been wounded.

Thirty-one died at Trung Luong, many of them teenagers. In addition, 155 were wounded, some grievously.

For the men who survived the terror of that place, it is difficult to comprehend that the most searing events of their lives could pass with such little notice, then or now. You will not find Trung Luong (pronounced trung long) in Gen. William C. Westmoreland's official account, Report on the War in Vietnam, nor in Stanley Karnow's seminal work, Vietnam: A History.

"This was a big, but not a huge, battle. It was a significant, but not an overwhelming, battle," says John Carland, a military historian who is writing Stemming the Tide, about Vietnam battles in 1965 and 1966. "It was like so many, many battles of that war."

Some guys got killed. Some got busted up. Some survived to fight again. Everybody moved on. That was Vietnam.

Yet Trung Luong was a crucible for Rich Montgomery, who came home to Montgomery County with his leg blown apart. Trung Luong still intrudes daily on the consciousness of Bruce Masters, settled now in South Jersey, part of his trigger finger sheared off by a bullet. And the hamlet still haunts Tony Burgee, who came home to North Philadelphia with a medal and a crushing sense of loss.

All three men were still boys when they saw their friends die at Trung Luong. Their medics were killed as they treated the wounded. Their sergeant bled to death in a creek bed. Their captain reached out to pull a wounded private to safety and came away with only the boy's arm. Their lieutenant was executed by an enemy officer when he happened to moan in a field of corpses.

It seems to the veterans of Trung Luong, deep now into middle age, that such things should be remembered.

Every soldier believes his battle was the bloodiest, the most wrenching, the most enduring. In Vietnam, that sense of mon-

year that he was the chief medic at Trung Luong, and was working with the wounded at one of the LZs as we flew in and out. I met several troopers that we had evacuated while attending a reunion of the 327th, in Harrisburg, PA several years ago. I had frequent conversations with Rich Montgomery, one of the evacuees, until he passed last year.

As you can see from the photo, many of us were wearing the old fatigues well into 1966. We could not get the OD paint for our helmets until JUL 66.

The enclosed letter is from Colonel Charles (Tom) Furgeson whom I asked to read this letter to verify my memory.

/S/ Ron Martin  
Thank you Ivan - Airborne

Copy:  
David Cook            Doug Field            Johnnie "Doc" Lindsey  
12 Lakeshore Drive  
Winthrop, ME 04364    Lou McDonald           Tom Furgeson

Joseph Wasco

Ron,

Sorry it has taken so long in responding to your letter. It is accurate..... However, SSGT Richard Snyder, Acting Platoon Sgt at the time gave me covering fire while taking that machinegun position out.

Something else you may remember... The first or second night in our defensive positions, on a small hill just east of Trung Luong, you came in just before or shortly after dark to evacuate additional wounded and killed. At that time I said to 1st SGT Rader how brave and supportive you Dust Off people were and we of "A" Company had to do something to show our appreciation. At that time I gave him some script and he added to it and ran to the aircraft and told someone to buy everyone in the crew a drink once you got back to Tuy Hoa North. Your bravery definitely was a moral booster and everyone in our unit respect the hell out of all of you.

1st SGT Rader made it back, returned for a second tour, and then in the 1970's died during open-heart surgery.

It was wonderful that you called that morning. It could not have been planned any better. My Battalion RTO from Vietnam (he lives in California) had been visiting for about a week and he, is the one who brought you in time and again. He also assisted in loading the dead and wounded throughout the three-day battle. He, as I did, completely broke down after talking to you.

Thanks again for all you did for us. Please keep in touch.

Sincerely,  
/S/ Tom Furgeson



umental sacrifice was undercut by ambivalence at home. Like Trung Luong, the war was so painful that it begged to be forgotten.

For those who survived, Vietnam is forever, and so is Trung Luong.

The Second Battalion of the 327th Infantry Regiment, a unit of the 101st Airborne Division, was commanded by Lt. Col. Joseph Wasco of Trenton, known as "Wild Gypsy." Wasco was 44, an aggressive veteran of World War II and the Korean War.

In June 1966, it fell to Wild Gypsy and his 400 men to find and engage a North Vietnamese unit of unknown size and location.

Intelligence officers had detected North Vietnamese regulars around Trung Luong; it was feared the troops would take a U.S. Special Forces base at nearby Dong Tre.

It was a typically vague mission in a war in which the enemy was elusive and ephemeral. Wasco and his men had spent months pursuing Viet Cong and North Vietnamese. They killed a few. Most got away.

Westmoreland's strategy was to force the enemy into set battles, where the American advantages in air power, artillery and armor could be brought to bear. The North Vietnamese and Viet Cong pursued a guerrilla war of ambushes and hit-and-runs.

Ultimately, they won, at a cost of 3 million dead soldiers and civilians.

At Trung Luong, Wasco figured he was up against a battalion - roughly 300 men. What he couldn't know was that elements of three hardened North Vietnamese regiments were dug in around Trung Luong - 3,000 to 4,000 men. American reconnaissance plane crews could not see that the troops were hidden in one of the most elaborate tunnel networks of the war, or that beneath golden haystacks were fortified bunkers, and in the winding creeks, bunkers were carved into the banks.

And so, on the afternoon of June 19, 1966, the young men of Alpha Company of the Second Battalion, heavy with ammo, eager to fight, and utterly unknowing, choppered down toward the valley of Trung Luong.

Just minutes after the Hueys swept down, the company began taking casualties. Several paratroopers pitched forward and collapsed face-first in the grass. It wasn't from enemy fire. It was from the heat. The temperature exceeded 100 degrees, a damp, suffocating heat.

The men were loaded like mules. Pfc. Rich Montgomery, a skinny, burr-headed 19-year-old from Philadelphia, tried to run after he jumped off the Huey, but he could manage only a stumbling jog because of his gear. He was trying to outrun the fires set by artillery and helicopter gunships.

Montgomery carried three days' worth of C rations in heavy cans. He also carried bandoliers of M-60 machine gun ammunition, almost 600 rounds. He had his M-16 rifle, extra ammo clips, claymore mines, grenades, clean socks, sleeping bag, poncho, entrenching tool, and two canteens of water.

Montgomery had volunteered for the war, eager to prove his manhood. Born in Philadelphia and reared in Oreland, Montgomery County, he spent his teens drinking beer, getting into fights, serving school detentions. The first time he tried to

enlist, his run-ins with police got him rejected as "morally unacceptable." With the intervention of a priest and a family doctor, he was accepted. He signed up for airborne, unaware that would require him to jump out of airplanes. He was afraid of heights.

Now, on the hot afternoon of June 19, Montgomery and the other 138 men of Alpha Company marched almost three hours pushing north toward Trung Luong.

At nightfall, Montgomery's platoon was sent out on ambush patrols. The men marched out into the blackness, finally setting up at the edge of a dry creek bed.

Montgomery was asleep when his buddy, Pvt. Gary Housley, spotted North Vietnamese soldiers moving down a trail. Incredibly, one of them was singing an American pop song - in perfect English. Housley waited, then raised his M-16 and fired a single round that caught a soldier under his chin and blew off the top of his head.

The next morning, some of the men went over to stare at the corpse. One soldier remembers the head looked like an empty bowl.

At 8:30 a.m., the company commander, Capt. Tom Furguson, got an urgent radio call from Wasco. The battalion's Charlie Company was pinned down by heavy enemy fire. Alpha Company was ordered to move west through Trung Luong to reinforce its sister company two miles away.

Furguson, 28, was a career officer who made it a point to know each of his men by name. He tried to find out the strength of the enemy that had stopped Charlie Company. All he could get over the radio was that it was between a squad and a rifle platoon.

Furguson led his company about a mile to a ridge finger known as Hill 48. He sent a platoon, led by Lt. Walter Eddy, into the hamlet. About 10 a.m., Eddy radioed to say the hamlet was quiet.

Furguson told Eddy to check the rest of the hamlet. Then he moved the main body of the company down the ridge finger, along a creek bed. Standing atop the creek bank, Furguson could see Eddy and his men as they checked out a hedgerow made of thick bamboo.

Then Eddy was suddenly gone, and the still air erupted with automatic weapons fire.

Furguson did not realize it until much later, but North Vietnamese soldiers were firing from bunkers beneath the haystacks and behind the hedgerow. Eddy was hit in both legs and tumbled into a pit. His radioman was hit in the head and killed.

Pfc. Patrick Mooney, the second gunner on the platoon's three-man machine-gun crew, crawled to where Eddy had been. He was calling out, "Lieutenant! Lieutenant!" when a North Vietnamese soldier leaned out from the hedgerow and shot him in the belly. Mooney fell into the pit with Eddy and died there in the lieutenant's arms.

In the creek bed, Furguson could hear the barrage but could not see what was happening. He led his men down the creek bed to a barn near the hedgerows.

It took a sustained effort by a private and a sergeant, firing from behind an embankment, to suppress fire long enough for other men to rush out and drag in the wounded and the dead. Somebody hauled Eddy, badly wounded, from his pit.

Rich Montgomery, toting M-60 ammo, had reached the



barn after running past the enemy machine gun fire. He was sprawled there in the dirt when he realized he had taken cover next to a body on a poncho. It was the ammo bearer, Pfc. Alton Munn. Montgomery had gone to jump school with Munn, shipped out to Vietnam with him. Now - just like that - he was gone.

After 90 minutes, the firefight was over. Furgeson radioed for permission to pull back to the ridge and call in air strikes.

The survivors marched back up the ridge, exhausted, and watched as Navy aircraft laced the hamlet with napalm.

Through the flames, Montgomery could see men emerge from holes in the ground. He dropped his C rations and grabbed his M-16. He emptied his magazine. Montgomery saw the figures go down. Later, in the hamlet, he saw enemy corpses where he had fired, but he did not feel avenged, or even satisfied. He just felt empty.

At his command post on the ridge finger, Furgeson got on the radio with Wasco. Charlie Company still desperately needed help. Both officers agreed: Alpha Company had to go back into Trung Luong.

Early that same afternoon, June 20, Bravo Company was preparing to chopper down to a landing zone atop Hill 258, just northwest of Trung Luong. The company had been yanked from another battle and ordered to take the hill, then link up with Alpha and Charlie Companies.

Aboard the last Huey in, loaded with battle gear, rode Pfc. Tony Burgee. He was a tall, powerful man, just 23, a 1961 graduate of Edison High in North Philadelphia. He had joined the Army to get away from street gang life around 11th and Susquehanna Streets.

He figured that if he was going to fight, he might as well get paid for it.

As the Hueys touched down on Hill 258, they came down slightly off the intended landing zone, into a swarm of enemy fire. By the time Burgee landed in the last chopper, about 3 p.m., the dead and wounded littered the ridge top.

Just past the landing zone, Burgee stumbled into Capt. Joseph Mack, who had collected a group of wounded. Mack ordered him to take his squad, eight men, to the top of the hill to secure the high ground.

Burgee and his men hiked up to the highest ridge, where they immediately came under fire from a heavy machine gun on the far side of a crevasse. The men got down on their bellies, but they still were not low enough. They took off their pistol belts and ammo packs, trying to make themselves smaller.

Burgee set up his M-60 machine gun, and a "thump gunner" set up an M-79 grenade launcher, and they went to work.

About 5 p.m., almost two hours into the firefight, Burgee was pouring M-60 rounds into the machine gun nest when it erupted in several explosions.

For two more hours, Burgee and his men stayed flat on the ground, worried that they would be hit if they raised their heads. Finally, at dusk, they managed to crawl about 25 yards down the hill.

They spent the rest of the night there, low on ammunition, out of water, terrified that North Vietnamese would come charging down the hill.

At daybreak on June 21, air strikes lit up enemy positions across Hill 258. Burgee's squad was ordered back up to the top.

There, in the morning light, he saw five dead North Vietnamese in a foxhole, sprawled across a heavy machine gun.

Bravo Company had taken Hill 258.

Burgee looked down into Trung Luong, illuminated by explosions and tracer fire. He thought: Please, please, don't send me down into that village.

At the ridge finger, the men of Alpha Company did not want to go back into Trung Luong. But they dragged themselves to their feet and filed back down the hill shortly after 2 p.m. on June 20.

The men moved down the same dry creek bed they had used without incident that morning. But this time, the North Vietnamese had moved through their tunnel system and into bunkers in the creek bank. When the Americans appeared, they were overwhelmed by machine gun fire from the front and side.

A thump gunner went down, wounded in both legs and his belly. Bullets tore open the leg of a medic who ran over to treat him, and ripped apart the leg of a lieutenant.

Montgomery was at the rear of the column with a fellow gunner, Pfc. Bob Krepps. They heard the shooting and then a command: "Machine gun up front!" The two ran up the creek bed, hauling their M-60.

Montgomery skidded down onto the creek bank, ready to feed more rounds into the M-60 for Krepps, who was already on his belly and firing. Montgomery felt something explode in his thigh. He saw his left leg dangling behind him, twisted completely around. Two machine gun bullets had pulverized his thigh bone.

He had always thought a wounded man should shout something inspirational. He screamed, "The motherf-ershot me!"

A medic rushed over and shot Montgomery full of morphine. Montgomery stared at a tattoo of a skull on the medic's chest.

Krepps came over, and Montgomery persuaded him to twist his shattered leg back into its original position.

Several men grabbed Montgomery and the other casualties and dragged them back to a clearing where medical evacuation choppers were able to land.

The firefight was still raging when a helicopter brought in Col. Hal Moore, a brigade commander with the First Cavalry. Moore was now in charge.

Moore remembers his command helicopter landing within 40 yards of Furgeson's men in the creek bed without receiving a single round of enemy fire. He thought Alpha Company was too "spooked," too "shook up." He thought Furgeson should "jack up" his men a bit and move them forward into the hamlet.

Furgeson felt insulted and demeaned. He had already fought so relentlessly here that he was later awarded a Silver Star.

Furgeson remembers a comment from the colonel that incensed him: "Looks like you're opposed by about one rifle squad."

An enemy rifle squad numbered no more than a dozen men. Furgeson knew he was up against hundreds of enemy, or more.

Furgeson, exhausted, stoked with adrenaline, felt his tem-





per rising. "Sir," he said, "it's the toughest f-ing rifle squad you or I ever went against." He wasn't about to get into a screaming match with a colonel, so he turned and stalked away.

Rich Montgomery was lying between two dead soldiers, watching a medevac helicopter swooping down, when an enemy machine gun nest opened fire on the dead and wounded. The soldiers fired for what seemed like a long time until Furgeson squeezed off several rounds, killing two of them and ending the attack.

The medevac finally was able to land, and Montgomery was strapped to a stretcher and tied to a lower skid on the chopper frame. Above him was another stretcher; he wasn't sure whether it carried a wounded man or a corpse.

As the chopper pulled up and away, Montgomery looked up to see a torrent of blood gushing from the man above him. It drenched Montgomery. He screamed and screamed at the crew, but no one heard him above the roar of the rotors.

Memories of any war are supple. For Bruce Masters, who was 19 at Trung Luong, what forms in his mind now after 34 years is other men's blood on his fatigues, infected leech bites, exhaustion, desperate thirst, and dysentery so bad that his clothes were streaked with his own diarrhea.

He was miserable on the morning of June 21, his third time into Trung Luong. This time, as the remainder of Alpha Company's men approached the hedgerow where they had been ambushed the day before, Masters was certain more were going to die.

He was waiting for the first enemy rounds to come. And they did, making a chopping noise through the thick vegetation.

Masters heard his corporal screaming: "Masters, fire that gun! Fire that gun!"

In an instant, Masters was down, his M-60 up on a bipod, and he was working the trigger.

An M-60, with its big 7.62 mm rounds, is a wicked weapon that attracts return fire. Masters had squeezed off just a few shots when a slug smashed into his helmet, crushing it. He took the helmet off, looked at it, put it back on, and resumed firing.

Masters felt his right hand fly back. He reached over to fire again, but he couldn't get the trigger to work. He looked down and saw that the trigger housing group was smashed. Only then did he notice the top of his finger turned to pulp, and blood everywhere.

By the next morning, June 22, the enemy had melted away in the face of U.S. reinforcements. There was only scattered resistance as Alpha and Charlie Companies came within sight of one another in Trung Luong, now deserted. It didn't feel like a victory.

"We never wanted the village," Wasco says. "We just wanted them" - the enemy.

By the time Alpha Company pulled back the third time, bringing out Masters and the other casualties, it had been eviscerated.

Of the 139 men who had gone in on June 19, plus two dozen reinforcements, only 42 were still standing. More than 70 had been killed or wounded, and dozens more had been felled by heat stroke.

"Few, if any, United States rifle companies in the Vietnam

War were more sorely tried," U.S. Army historian S.L.A. Marshall wrote in The Fields of Bamboo, an account of Trung Luong and two other battles.

Three hundred seventy-one enemy bodies were counted. American commanders listed 394 probable enemy kills in the onslaught of 118 tons of napalm, 107 tons of bombs, and 26,000 artillery rounds.

The North Vietnamese claimed 144 American kills. Their battle reports complain of hunger, malaria, desertions, men falling asleep, men cowering and quitting during air strikes, and a shortage of coffins that distressed the troops.

Except for the men of the Second Battalion, nobody in Vietnam thought much about Trung Luong for very long. The war lurched ahead, returned briefly to the valley in September, and raced on again. The war was barely two years old, with nine years and many, many battles to come.

After Trung Luong, Rich Montgomery spent almost a year in hospitals and physical therapy to heal his shattered leg. He drifted into alcohol and drug addiction, then recovered and began counseling addicts. Now 53, he has a master's degree in human services and works for the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry, conducting anti-drug programs.

Tony Burgee, 57, was evacuated off Hill 258 and awarded a Bronze Star for his actions. He served two tours in Vietnam, leaving the Army as a sergeant. He ran a bookstore in North Philadelphia and now counsels young people against drugs and violence.

He is haunted by memories of the men who died at Trung Luong. "My therapist says I have survivor's guilt," he says.

Bruce Masters, 54, now runs a microbiology lab in Montgomery County and lives in Bridgeton, N.J.

"It's on my mind every single friggin' day," he says of Trung Luong. "It's never gone away, and it never will."

Nine years ago, Masters was leafing through a military bulletin when he read that the Second Battalion had been awarded a Presidential Unit Citation for Trung Luong - in 1969. It was a rare distinction, the highest unit award possible, yet no one in the battalion was ever notified.

Last June 18, Masters and Montgomery organized an awards ceremony at Fort Campbell, Ky., home of the current Second Battalion. Thirty-four Trung Luong veterans attended; 30 had been wounded.

On a parade field with a brilliant sun beating down, the silver-haired men stood in formation in blazers and ties. With them was the brother of one man killed at Trung Luong, the son of another, and Grace Mooney, mother of Patrick Mooney, the gunner who died in Lt. Eddy's arms. Eddy was there, too, in a wheelchair, and he slowly rose to his feet for the national anthem.

Blue ribbons trimmed in gold were pinned to the veterans' chests, and throughout the long ceremony each man stood straight and tall in the fierce June heat.

Tomorrow: The war at home

This story is based on interviews with veterans of the Trung Luong battle, U.S. Army after-action reports and captured North Vietnamese documents at the National Archives, and The Fields of Bamboo, by S.L.A. Marshall.



The First Brigade

# DIPLOMAT AND WARRIOR

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

---

VOL. I, No. 27                      VIETNAM                      NOV. 25, 1966

**SOCIAL EVENT**

## 10th AVN, 2/327 Whoop It Up Halloween Nite

By MSgt Merrill S. Harrison

**TUY HOA (IFFV)** — On October 31, the U.S. Army's 10th Combat Aviation Battalion and a battalion of the 1st Brigade donned their costumes, saddled up their broomsticks, and went out in the light of a full moon to play "Trick or Treat" on the Viet Cong.

Like most Americans they had been too impatient to wait for the "official" night to pound on doors. So they went out the night before too, to aggravate the neighbors. And like most Americans they didn't — the first night — both the ones too close to home.

The trick was led by Lt. Col. Ben Harrison, commanding officer of the 10th, and Lt. Col. Joseph Wasco, Jr.,

commander of the 2d Battalion, 327th Infantry. The trick was no treat for the Viet Cong.

The plan for Halloween eve called for no preparatory fires from the gunships or artillery, and there was to be no illumination of the battle zone from the 10th's

(Cont'd on p-3, Col. 5)

## NVA Lt Col's Tactics Fail Against 2 PFCs

By PFC Luis Callender

**PHU YEN** — A high ranking North Vietnamese army officer just couldn't match two 1st Brigade PFCs when it came to tactics.

The 502d Infantry had surrounded a large NVA force northwest of Tuy Hoa, and as morning came creeping through the dense jungle undergrowth, Company "A" prepared for a final push to rout the trapped enemy.

Privates First Class Stephen Kelly and Raymond Kick were the two men linking the 1st and 2d platoons in the company's perimeter. Kick could barely make out the figure of a man hurriedly making his way toward his position. He held his fire as he was not certain whether the man was enemy.

"I let him get within 25 yards of my position and then hollered a challenge," Kick relates. "He took off down the hill and cut over toward Kelly's position."

Kelly from his position had seen the tall elephant grass

(Cont'd on p-4, Col. 3)

# NVA Base Taken

**PHU YEN** — When paratroopers of the 1st Brigade swiftly saturated an area in Phu Yen Province in pursuit of North Vietnamese army regulars who had hours earlier attacked an artillery battery, they found the NVA's base camp.

Following the early morning enemy attack on Battery "A," 320th Artillery, Company "B," 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry moved into the area and uncovered what was believed to be an NVA battalion-sized camp.

The "Screaming Eagles" came upon newly constructed enemy training facilities complete with bunkers and vines intermeshed to simulate barbed wire. As they moved farther up the hill, they met light enemy opposition. The enemy quickly broke contact and retreated into the thick jungle.

Further search showed that half the hill was equipped with bunkers and other training aids (including replicas of mortar rounds and grenades carved from wood.) The 101st troopers bedded down on the hill.

The next day as a search progressed, huts ranging in size from 15 by 20 feet, to others of 8 by 12 feet, were discovered. They were built halfway around the mountain.

The huts had various uses: mess halls, sleeping quarters, and even separate latrines for officers and enlisted men. Many showed signs of recent

(Cont'd on p-3, Col. 4)



502d Infantry "Recondos" close in on an enemy position during Operation GERONIMO I. The hat in the tree (U.L.) was left by an enemy soldier who hastily departed the area to escape the "Screaming Eagles." (Photo by Sp4 Oddvar Breiland.)

## Free Message To RVN Through Army MARS

**WASH. (AFNB)** — Army Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) has announced that families of U.S. military and civilian personnel, whose sponsors are stationed in Vietnam, may send personal radio messages to the overseas member without charge.

Families are requested, however, to submit messages as early as possible due to additional requirements expected during the holiday season. Each message must be limited to 25 words or less. The recipient's com-

plete address must be provided including APO.

Messages may be sent by contacting a station at any of the following locations: Ft. Devens, Mass.; Ft. George G. Meade, Md.; Ft. McPherson, Ga.; Ft. Sheridan, Ill.; The Presidio, San Francisco, Calif.; Ft. Sam Houston, Tex.; The Pentagon, Washington, D.C.; or Schofield Barracks, Oahu, Hawaii.

Army MARS operates under jurisdiction of Army's Office of the Chief of Communications-Electronics.



A captured North Vietnamese army officer receives medical attention from two 1st Brigade troopers. The NVA company executive officer surrendered during Operation GERONIMO I. Specialists 5 Donald Moss (L) and Bertrand Hoffing are the medics. (Photo by Sp4 Oddvar Breiland.)



# DIPLOMAT and WARRIOR

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 Press Service, Armed Forces News Bureau, and Army News and Photo Features augment local news.

CG . . . . . Brig. Gen. Willard Pearson  
IO . . . . . Maj. Ivan G. Worrell  
OIC . . . . . 1st Lt. Arthur Barnett  
EDITOR . . . . . Sp4 Gil B. Valle

## Editor's Column

The D & W wishes to say good by to Ray Van Lith, industrious clerk in the Info Office, whose acquaint-ship has been a happy experience. Good luck to him on his next assignment.

Less than 40 days remain to claim privately owned weapons now in custody of the 377th Air Police Squadron, Tan Son Nhut Air Force Base.

The weapons must be claimed by the owners or their designated representatives. Representatives must have written authority to obtain the weapon. This should be a letter from the owner identifying the representative and carrying the owner's signature as it appears on the weapon receipt.

The weapon will be released on presentation of such identification. The owner then must re-register it with his organization headquarters where it will be secured in a unit arms room.

Weapons not claimed by the 21 December deadline will be considered abandoned property.

Weapons can be claimed at Building 19, Cantonment 1, Tan Son Nhut AFB.

The Tuy Hoa piaster exchange point has been moved to a new location. This exchange is now operated by the Tuy Hoa Sub Area Command and is located near the Tuy Hoa Theater and the District Police Station. Hours of operation are the same: 1300 to 1730 hrs.

A reminder that Christmas airmail must be post-marked by December 13th.

Army is revising its enlisted early release policy, as it affects long tour returnees only, by ruling that none will be released earlier than 30 days before their expiration of term of service (ETS). The revision goes into effect Jan. 1.

The current 90-day early release policy will remain in effect for returnees from short tour areas. An official said the advantage accruing to short tour returnees recognizes the hardships encountered, especially by combat troops in Vietnam.

## Airborne Is The Difference

**SAIGON (I-Log)**—For the second consecutive month, the Army's 109th Quartermaster Company (Air Delivery) of the Cam Ranh Bay Support Command has captured "soldier of the month" honors in the more than 30,000-man 1st Logistical Command.

In country only since early August, the Cam Ranh stationed parachute rigger unit has sent two representatives before the command's "best soldier" board, and both Sp4 Edhar Ray, Jr. in October and Sp4 Gary E.

Siden in November, captured top honors.

Each was selected "best of more than 30,000" by boards of senior non-commissioned officers which examined command-wide candidates at the Log headquarters in Saigon.

Selection from among the four lowest enlisted ranks is based on soldierly attributes and general knowledge of military and general subjects.

The unit was stationed with the 101st Airborne at Fort Campbell, Ky. prior to deployment to Vietnam.

## LETTERS

From The DCOMUSMACV:

Brig. Gen. Willard Pearson:

Thank you very much for the photo of me and the squad leaders. I can assure you it was great honor for me to talk to and have lunch with them.

Your Squad Leaders Seminar is a great idea and will pay you no end of dividends in the long run. This kind of "togetherness" is what makes yours a great outfit. Thanks again—hope to see you again soon.

Sincerely,  
John A. Heintges  
Lieutenant General, USA  
Commanding

From New York:

Sgt. Major Robert A Young

Dear Bob:

I received your letter today and was very glad to hear from you. Also glad to hear that you will distribute the books.

On 30 October 1966, I mailed 43 cartons of books, total 2,150 books and Readers Digests. I have more to come but the packing takes time and when you only get 3 or 4 helpers it takes a little longer.

This project was undertaken by me in October to get about 1,000 books, but the response has really been terrific. The people in this area have really shown their support for our troops in Vietnam.

I know that there are a lot of things that the Brigade can use so if you would keep in touch with me I will try and get these items for the Brigade. Although I won't be the New York Chapter President after 1 January, I will get permission from the new president to carry on with this and other projects.

You cannot realize how proud all "Old Screaming Eagles" are of our 1st Brigade in Vietnam. When we read about their exploits in the papers, we know that you are keeping your "Rendezvous with Destiny" as we did in Europe in 1944, and you are adding your own to the history of the greatest Division in the U.S. Army.

God Bless you one and all.

Sincerely,  
Harold J. Bobkier  
President  
New York Chapter  
101st Airborne Assc.

## WARRIORS OF THE WEEK

Lt. Richard Whelan



First Lieutenant Richard W. Whelan, a member of Company "C," 2d Battalion, 327th Infantry was chosen as the "Officer Warrior of the Week" for his recent actions against the enemy near Tuy Hoa.

Sgt. M. Montgomery

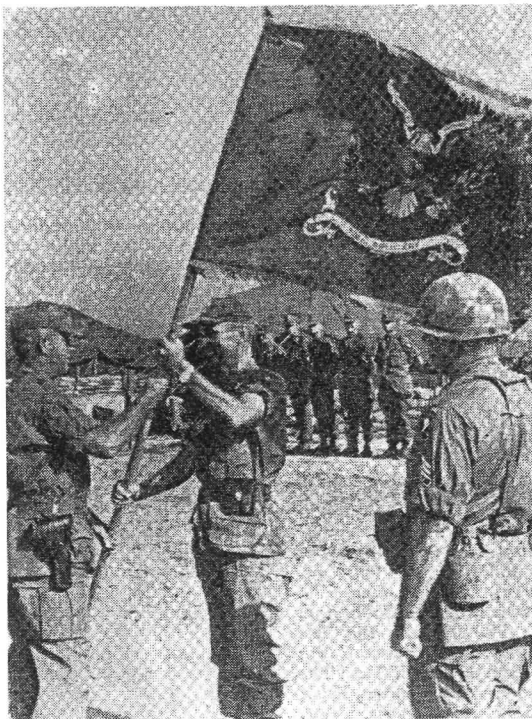


Sergeant Malcolm Montgomery, a member of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry, was chosen as the "Enlisted Warrior of the Week" for his recent actions against the enemy near Tuy Hoa.

## CHÒI ĐẤT...



Ain't that somthin'!!



Gen. Pearson, accepts the 320th Artillery's o'd colors from Lt. Col. William Madden, commanding officer of the unit. Looking on is Sergeant Major Arnold who will place the old colors in the 101st museum at Ft. Campbell, Kentucky. The battalion was presented new colors by Gen. Pearson at the same ceremony. (Photo by Sp4 Oddvar Breiland).





Capt. Walter R. Brown receives the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism from General Creighton W. Abrams, vice chief of staff of the Army. Capt. Brown was the commanding officer of Company "A," 2d Battalion, 502d Infantry during the battle of Tou Morong last June. General Pearson observes the presentation.

(Photo by Sp4 Oddvar Breiland)

# 39th Engineer Bn Joined With 1st Bde On Seward

**Ha Trung-Chi Trank (18 Eng.)** — The 3rd Platoon of Company "C," 39th Engineer Battalion recently joined with elements of the 101st Airborne Division during a phase of an operation designed to prevent the Viet Cong's confiscation of valuable rice harvests.

The platoon was assigned to support the 2d Battalion, 327th Infantry as the infantrymen secured several rice harvest areas. First task assigned to the engineers was the opening of a road near the town of Ha Trung.

This proved to be a big job. One seven mile stretch alone, had been cut in 48 places and 26 obstacles were emplaced. While repairing the road, sweeping for mines and booby traps, the platoon came under enemy fire but sustained no casualties.

The road was opened in two days, but had to be

reopened each morning because of enemy emplacement of new obstacles during the night.

Another harvest area two and one-half miles north of the town of Chi Trank posed a different problem. The area was located across a 300-foot wide river, with all bridges

having been destroyed by the Viet Cong.

The engineers solved the problem by building a light tactical raft to ferry the rice across the river where it was picked up by trucks. The road leading to the river was also repaired during the operation.

## NVA Base Camp Found

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

construction and some were not completed, indicating a hasty departure on the part of the builders.

A total of 30 individual back-packs were taken from under large rocks and inside small caves, each contained both a set of black pajamas and an NVA khaki uniform. Each pack also held such personal effects as photo albums, letters, and even bars of sweet smelling soap, named "Angel Baby Soap."

A large number of ponchos, mosquito nets, account books, entrenching tools, more than 1000 feet of communication wire, a field telephone, parts of a long range, shortwave radio, complete with battery and transmitter, gas masks, and tons of corn and rice both polished and unpolished, were taken from concealment.

The weapons and ammunition the enemy left behind were 1 well oiled SKS-46 automatic weapon with bayonet, 1000 rounds of machinegun ammunition, 300 rounds of small arms ammunition, two 40mm rockets still in their cannisters, 20 Chinese Communist grenades, and a number of blasting caps used to prime mines and grenades.

The NVA also had a propaganda department going. Large posters were dug up which exalted the efforts of communist subversion. One poster, painted in bright colors, depicted a robust, clean shaven NVA regular shooting down American helicopters with his AK-47 automatic rifle. Another poster showed the model NVA soldier bayoneting American fighting men while at the same time destroying tanks and other armor with automatic rifles. Among the captured equipment was a red flag with a yellow hammer and sickle.

"They evacuated this area in a hurry," observed Captain Glenn Mallory, the Company "B" commander, "because they don't usually leave all this stuff behind. We're de-

initely on to them, and they know it."

It was reported that the camp had been abandoned less than 24 hours prior to its discovery by the 1st Brigade troopers by study of freshly cut bamboo and straw left in bundles where new huts were to be constructed.

"They really felt safe here," Mallory stated, "because they don't have the usual spider holes dug. They seemed pretty certain we'd never find them."

## Halloween Haunt Harries Ho's Henchmen

(Continued from p-1, Col. 5)

flare ship unless dictated by emergency.

In a remarkably successful deceptive maneuver Harrison's battalion conducted a similar operation in a remote area.

The pathfinders marked LZ's and empty "slicks" and "Chinooks" went into the LZ's. For 20-minutes the gunships shot up the entire area. The flareship turned night into day. Ground artillery fired a seven-minute barrage. And then nothing happened. No troops landed. Charlie had been tricked. On the 31st he was treated to the real thing. The men of the 327th were in their new area and Charlie did not know they were there. But he found out when the doorbell rang Halloween.

Harrison's battalion on the 31st, moved the entire battalion of paratroopers into an area west of Tuy Hoa in a perfect clandestine night assault that caught the VC sound asleep. That's where jumping-the-gun the previous night paid off.

Just before dusk, 14 "slick" troop carriers of the 10th took off from home base with the battalion's pathfinder unit, 13 men commanded by 1st Lt. William E.

(Cont'd on p-1, Col. 4)

# 'A' 502d Spells 'ATTACK'

By PFC Luis Callender

**PHU YEN** — "Attack" is their motto, and when Company "A," 502d Infantry meets the enemy, they live up to it.

The STRIKE FORCE of the 1st Brigade surrounded and cut off all avenue of escape for elements of the 5th Battalion, 95th North Vietnamese army regiment northwest of Tuy Hoa.

The trapped NVA, heavily armed and deeply entrenched on a steep, wooded mountainside were well hidden in a tangle of thick vines, dense underbrush and tall elephant grass.

When Company "A" moved into complete the 502d encirclement, they met with a wall of lead from NVA machineguns and automatic weapons. However, the STRIKE FORCE company, like everyone else in the 1st Brigade, has been looking for the 95th for quite some time, and they were prepared to "quick march over them."

Countless machinegun duels rattled thru the hillside, as "A" Company's gunners, who boast of being the Vietnam Fire Brigade's best traded burst for burst with the determined NVA.

The battle raged into its second day as the troopers plunged headlong into the well-fortified enemy, annihilating one NVA entrenchment after another. The NVA tried to meet the oncoming "Screaming Eagles" only to be crushed in a battalion vise.

When the enemy turned and ran, Company "A" relentlessly pushed them into the rapidly closing STRIKE FORCE jaws.

Many of the fighting paratroopers of Company "A," due for rotation, refused to leave the battle. Many of the

"short timers" had very old scores to settle with the 95th.

"We've been looking for them a long time," said Captain James MacFadden, "A" Company commander, and they just didn't have anyplace to go once we got them out of their holes."

PFC William Nolan of Company "B," 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry and a Popular Forces soldier lead a captured enemy pack horse to the company command post. The 1st Brigade unit captured pack animals while on Operation GERONIMO I. (Photo by Sp4 Ray Van Lith)





This girl, Melody Patterson, claims she's in "F" Troop. Says the government sent her to the unit, after the troop had ordered a supply of ink pens, in a carton marked "Reproducing medium — fine line." (photo courtesy "Operation Pin Up.")

**NFL News Notes**

New York (NFL)— Special meetings of both the American and National Football Leagues will be held starting Monday, Nov. 28, in New York City, Commissioner Pete Rozelle announced. Club presidents, meeting in separate sessions, will hear and discuss the recommendations of the joint committee of NFL-AFL world championship game and the first draft of the new combined league... At the conclusion of the meetings there will also be a joint session dealing with the 1967 pre-season schedule in which AFL and NFL teams will play for the first time.

# NVA's Tactics Fail

(Cont'd from p-1, Col. 1) moving, and like Kick held his fire.

"I thought it might be one of our own men picking up a claymore mine or something," said the trooper.

But with Kick's challenge, Kelly said the frantic movements in the dense underbush increased — moving closer to his position. He fired once and the movement started back toward Kick's position.

When Kelly fired Kick moved from his position and started stalking, what was without doubt, the enemy. He moved only a few yards from his position when the tall elephant grass parted only 20 yards away and a black pajama-clad figure appeared. He wore a back-pack and was armed with a pistol. The enemy saw Kick and fired twice. The 101st trooper hit the dirt. The enemy turned and headed in the other direction.

Kelly was already out of his hole and stalking from the other side. For the next two minutes it was a game of tactics.

The enemy was between them and the two "Screaming Eagles" moved in. The trapped NVA would move a short distance forward and lay still. Then he would move toward Kelly, then back toward Kelly. At one point, he even threw a rock forward of the perimeter probably hoping to distract the two paratroopers. It did not work.

As if on the same wave length, the two STRIKE FORCE troopers moved when the NVA moved and stood still when he stood still — all the time maneuvering him into a small clearing. At times, either Kelly or Kick would catch brief glimpses of the NVA but neither fired for fear of hitting the other. Kick would move toward the enemy and then back off. Kelly on the other hand, maneuvering in

an almost straight flanking movement got ahead of the man and waited.

The enemy stopped moving for awhile, then made a mad dash through the tangle of vines, woods, and elephant grass. But Kick and Kelly were ready as the NVA stepped into the small clearing: Two M-16s cracked simultaneously, four times and the enemy crashed to the ground as the bullets

ripped home.



Papers found on the body proved the dead NVA to be a battalion executive officer (comparable to an American lieutenant colonel.) In his pack, he carried a pressed khaki uniform. Among his personal effects, the paratroopers found a red velvet shoulder insignia with a gold star.

# Hallo'een Hellions Haunt Ho's Helpers' Hideout

(Cont'd from p-3, Col. 5)

Ward, and two platoons of parachutists.

The mission of Ward's 13 was to set small lights only seen from the air on the landing zones for the main assault force. The accompanying infantry were to furnish security for the LZ's in the initial stage of the operation. Covering the pathfinders were six gunships of the 10th. The pathfinders knew that in case they weren't picked up after their job was done — when the main assault force landed — that there would "be no, repeat no, extractions." Said Ward, "If we don't get picked up for any reason we

automatically join the rifle platoons."

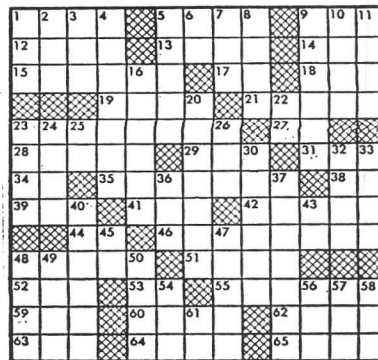
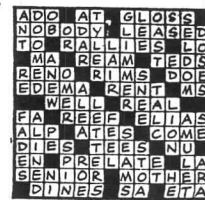
By 10 p.m. the witch's moon was high and all the goblins were out. The first flight, 24 "slicks" and 6 gunships, went in under some clouds; followed immediately by the second flight — 24 "slicks," 4 big troop-carrying CH-47 "Chinooks," and 6 gunships. The pathfinders were then picked up.

All choppers put their troopers into the right landing zones, at the right time without any casualties to men or machines. The sleeping neighbors never answered the knock on the door.

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Answer to Previous Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1-Fish sauce
  - 5-Ducklet
  - 9-Mournful
  - 12-Room in jail
  - 13-In addition
  - 14-Mohammedan name
  - 15-Most docile
  - 17-Greek letter
  - 18-Golf mound
  - 19-The sweetsop
  - 21-Challenged
  - 23-Flags
  - 27-A state (abbr.)
  - 28-Fairy in "The Tempest"
  - 29-Ethiopian title
  - 31-Soft food
  - 31-A state (abbr.)
  - 35-Told
  - 38-Symbol for tantalum
  - 39-Man's nickname
  - 41-Unit of Portuguese currency
  - 42-Blackbird
  - 44-Printer's measure
  - 46-Scuffling
  - 48-Citrus fruit (pl.)
  - 51-Dispatched
  - 52-Artificial language
  - 53-Conjunction
  - 55-Checked
  - 59-Witty remark
  - 60-One opposed
  - 62-Memorandum
  - 63-Beverage
  - 64-Unusual
  - 65-Chew upon
- DOWN**
- 1-Perform
  - 2-Meadow
  - 3-Shade tree
  - 4-Tidier
  - 5-Communion plate
  - 6-Man's nickname
  - 7-Doctrine
  - 8-Noisy
  - 9-Petty ruler
  - 10-Toward shelter
  - 11-Expired
  - 16-More rapid
  - 20-Makes violent effort
  - 22-Symbol for silver
  - 23-Separate
  - 24-Great Lake
  - 25-Symbol for nickel
  - 26-Posed for portrait
  - 30-Calm
  - 32-Solar disk
  - 33-Sharp pain
  - 36-French plural article
  - 37-Bursting forth
  - 40-Lower in rank
  - 43-Six (Roman number)
  - 45-Pronoun
  - 47-Weird
  - 48-Kind of bean
  - 49-Sacred image
  - 50-District in Germany
  - 54-Nahoor sheep
  - 56-Negative prefix
  - 57-Greek letter
  - 58-Condensed moisture
  - 61-Initials of 26th President



Distr. by United Feature Syndicate, Inc. 28

For Use In Authorized Service Newspapers Only.

**Mail The D & W Home**  
(Does not meet requirements for "free" mail.)

**From:** \_\_\_\_\_

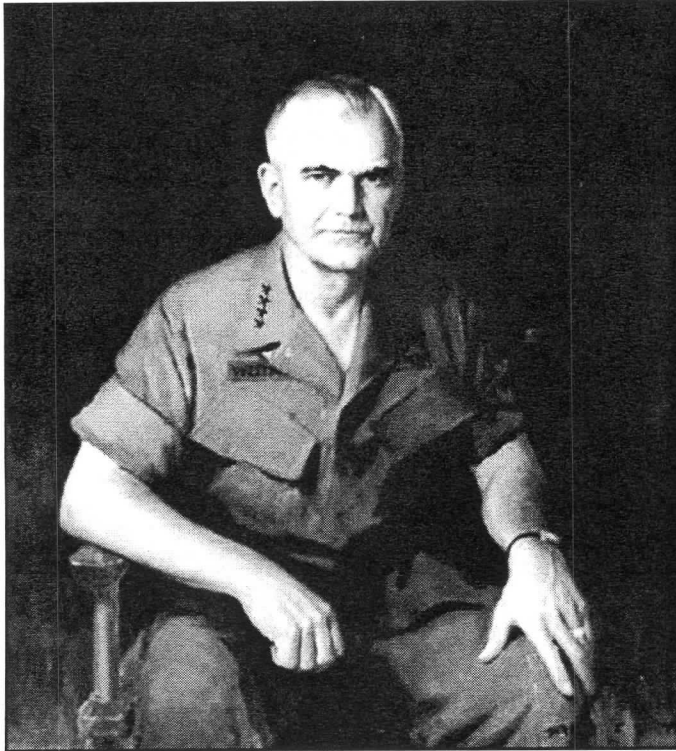
Place Stamp Here

(8 cents Airmail)  
(5 cents 1st class)

**To:** \_\_\_\_\_



## General William C. Westmoreland March 26, 1914 to July 18, 2005



**ArmyTimes.com**

August 01, 2005

**General who commanded U.S. troops in Vietnam dies**  
CHARLESTON, S.C. — Retired Gen. William Westmoreland, who commanded American troops in Vietnam at the end of a long Army career, died July 18. He was 91. Westmoreland died of natural causes at Bishop Gadsden retirement home where he lived with his wife for the past several years, said his son, James Ripley Westmoreland. The silver-haired, jut-jawed officer, who rose through the ranks quickly in Europe during World War II and was superintendent of West Point, contended the United States did not lose the conflict in Southeast Asia.

"It's more accurate to say our country did not fulfill its commitment to South Vietnam," he said. "By virtue of Vietnam, the U.S. held the line for 10 years and stopped the dominoes from falling." As commander of U.S. forces in Vietnam from 1964 to 1968, Westmoreland oversaw the introduction of ground troops and a dramatic increase in U.S. troops there. U.S. support for the war suffered a tremendous blow near the end of Westmoreland's tenure when enemy forces attacked several cities and towns throughout South Vietnam in what is known as the Tet Offensive in 1968. Though Westmoreland fought off the attacks, the American public remained stunned that the enemy had gained access to the U.S. Embassy in Saigon, even if only for a few hours. After the battles, President Johnson limited further increas-

es in troops, and Westmoreland was recalled to Washington to serve as Army Chief of Staff.

Westmoreland would later say he did not know how history would deal with him.

"I have no apologies, no regrets. I gave my very best efforts," he added. "I've been hung in effigy. I've been spat upon. You just have to let those things bounce off."

Westmoreland led thousands of his comrades in the November 1982 march in Washington to dedicate the Vietnam War Memorial. He called it "one of the most emotional and proudest experiences of my life."

William Childs Westmoreland was born near Spartanburg, S.C., on March 26, 1914.

He attended The Citadel for a year before transferring to the U.S. Military Academy. He graduated in 1936 and, during his senior year, held the highest command position in the cadet corps.

Westmoreland saw action in North Africa, Sicily, and Europe during World War II. He made colonel by the time he was 30. As commander of the 34th Field Artillery Battalion fighting German Field Marshal Erwin Rommel, he earned the loyalty and respect of his troops for joining in the battle rather than remaining behind the lines at a command post.

He was promoted to brigadier general during service in the Korean War and later served in the Pentagon under Army Chief of Staff Maxwell Taylor.

Westmoreland became the superintendent of West Point in 1960 and, by 1964, was a three-star general commanding American troops in Vietnam.

After his tour in Vietnam, Westmoreland was promoted to Army Chief of Staff. He retired from active duty in 1972, but he continued to lecture and participate in veterans' activities. Westmoreland was married to the former Katherine "Kitzy" Van Deusen and the couple had three children. He is survived by his wife; a son, James Ripley "Rip" Westmoreland, of Brooklyn, N.Y.; two daughters, Katherine Stevens Westmoreland of Kennebunk, Maine, and Margaret Childs Westmoreland Richards of Sanford, Fla.; six grandchildren; and his sister Margaret Clarkson of Columbia, S.C.

In 1982, Westmoreland filed a \$120 million lawsuit against CBS over the documentary "The Uncounted Enemy: A Vietnam Deception," which implied he had deceived President Johnson and the public about enemy troop strength in Vietnam. At the time, Westmoreland said the question "is not about whether the war in Vietnam was right or wrong, but whether in our land a television network can rob an honorable man of his reputation."

After an 18-week trial in New York, the case was settled shortly before it was to go to the jury.

Westmoreland often spoke to Vietnam veterans' groups, accepting invitations to visit veterans' groups in all 50 states, his son Rip said.

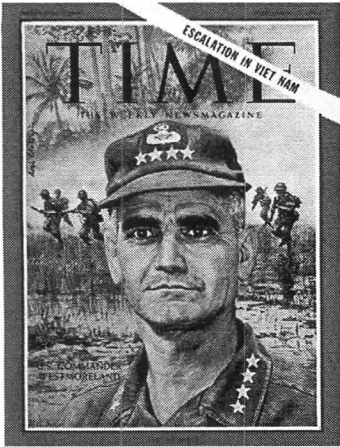
"That became, in effect, his *raison d'être*," Rip Westmoreland recalled. "He did have a point of view on Vietnam, but he did not speak about that. He was not out there trying to justify anything. He was there looking at the veterans with his wonderful presence."

— The Associated Press



# Westmoreland: American hero

By: Joe Scarborough



Americans lost an American hero this week — and they don't even know it.

General William Westmoreland led American troops in Vietnam from 1964 to 1968. It was an ugly time to be an American soldier. Westmoreland knew that sad truth better than most. He was spit upon, had his image burned in effigy, and had his character maligned by an overwhelmingly hostile media machine.

But the general held his head high and refused to apologize fighting communism in Southeast Asia.

Tragically, Westmoreland's warnings were ignored in US newsrooms and on college campuses. Democratic and Republican politicians alike proved themselves to be feckless in the face of campus revolts and biased news editors. LBJ and Nixon cut and ran when they should have stood and fought.

Unlike Westmoreland, these Presidents were more interested in silencing leftist critics than in finishing a winnable war. As a result, American troops were betrayed, Cambodia was ripped apart by Pol Pot, and the Vietnamese people were held hostage by a communist police state and a miserable existence where the per capita income is still only \$500 a year. Thank God William Westmoreland was more interested in being right than being fashionable. For that, all Americans owe this soldier a heart felt salute.

E-mail me at [JScarborough@msnbc.com](mailto:JScarborough@msnbc.com)

Johnny Velasquez, 2/502 B VN 67-68, National President of the 101st Airborne Division Association wrote:

Dear Mrs. W. C. Westmoreland:

On behalf of the hundreds of thousands of 101st Airborne Division veterans and specifically the thousands of members in the 101st Airborne Division Association, it is my honor as their president to send our heartfelt sympathy to you and your family. General Westmoreland was such an outstanding leader of men, always concerned with his troops' welfare and their



families. As a Vietnam veteran I will always remember him as a great Commander.

I have also heard you were forever assisting family members assigned to the 187th A.R.C.T. in Japan while the General was leading the 'Rakkasans' in the Korean conflict. What a wonderful team you made in the history of our country. Mrs. Westmoreland, our Airborne-Air Assault prayers reach out to you and yours.

God bless you,

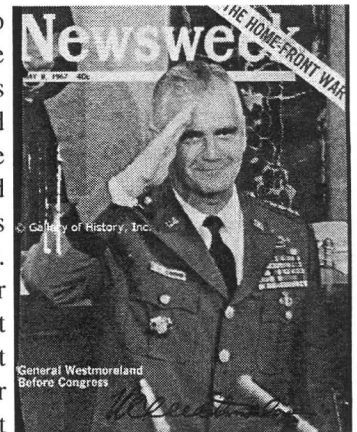
Johnny Velasquez  
National President



Major General W. C. Westmoreland, Commanding General 101st Airborne Division and Fort Campbell April 1958-June 1960.

Russell Palm, 2/327 A 4/66-3/67  
Phoenix, AZ  
littledogs@cox.net  
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2005 12:55 PM  
To: Jim Simchera

I too remember Gen. Westmoreland very well. He pinned my Purple Heart on me at Tuy Hao. Then turned to go to the next man, when he turned back and said oh yes this is yours too, and pinned a Bronze Star with V devise on me. Shook my hand, said he was grateful for soldiers like me and walked way. That wasn't to long after Trung Luong. He was a great man in my eyes. I had a great deal of respect for him after that. Had the government listened to what he had to say, Tet 68 would not have happened and the conflict in Vietnam would have probably ended 6 or 7 years earlier and South Vietnam would still be South Vietnam. But that's water under the bridge now. But yes in my mind he was a Great Warrior on a lot of fronts. He will be missed I'm sure of that.



Russ Palm A/2/327 No Slack 66-67

*Editor's Note: I do not have the vocabulary to adequately describe my admiration for General Westmoreland. He was a great man and a General without peer. The veterans of the 1st Brigade (S) have lost the greatest supporter we had in Viet Nam.*



## Purple Heart Ceremony for Col(R) Kenneth W. Pfeiffer Honor Delayed but Not Forgotten

On February 8, 1967 while serving as a machine gunner with the 1st Platoon, C Company, 1st Battalion (Airborne) 327th Infantry I was wounded in action. The wound, in the neck, while not life threatening continued to bleed while I continued to engage the enemy across a river. Our platoon medic, Pat Murphy (1/327 HQ 66-67) had been attending to other wounded when word got back to him that someone up on the firing line had been hit. He immediately grabbed his aid kit and came forward to where I was. As he began treating the wound he saw it was continuing to bleed. Noticing there was no cover from enemy fire he wisely told me we needed to treat this wound out of the line of fire. Thinking I was weakened from loss of blood, he was surprised when I got up, turned the M-60 over to John Ruff and began walking back to the CP where the other wounded were being treated. He decided to stay close to the action to be handy if anyone else was wounded. Within a few minutes he, himself was

wounded. When I got back to the CP another medic, Mathew Jolivette, I think, applied a pressure bandage and got the bleeding stopped. A medevac helicopter, having been driven off by enemy fire once, arrived. The wounded began to be loaded on board. As the firefight continued and our platoon had already lost several men, I refused evacuation and returned to the fight. The action continued for another two to three hours. Air strikes and our continued aggressive engagement caused what was left of the enemy to abandon their positions. We pursued them across the river for about an hour. There were a couple of light contacts before they succeeded in escaping.

The next day we choppered to Phan Thiet while others continued the hunt. In a couple of days we were back in

the bush. I took a few penicillin pills and had the bandage changed every few days in the field. I ran into our Company Commander, Bill Northquest (1/327 C 6/66-12/67), in the field and seeing the bandage he asked how I was doing and mentioned something about a Purple Heart. Based on that I assumed the paperwork would catch up to me eventually and forgot about it. After many years I thought the documentation had been lost. Then in early 2003 I saw an inquiry in "The Screaming Eagle" magazine from whom other than Pat Murphy asking about our jump in Kontum. That started an exchange, of e-mails and memories. He remembered vividly the events of February 8th and was upset that I had not received the Purple Heart. As luck would have it one of my neighbors was Bill Bacon, National Adjutant of the

Military Order of the Purple Heart. He directed me to one of their service officers to get the paper work started in correcting my records. It was during this process that I learned that the documentation for awarding the Purple Heart is almost always started in the hospital by the attending medical personnel. I didn't go to the hospital so there was no paper work.

Pat was kind enough to write his account of the events of February 8th and

along with some documentation I had collected at the National Archives the request for record correction went forward. Time and the bureaucracy marched on and two years later on May 3rd, 2005, LTG Robert Clark, 5th Army Commander awarded me the Purple Heart. Pat and his wife along with Earl DeLong, Bill Bazar (1/327 C 67-68) and Steve Stevenson joined family and friends for the ceremony at Ft. Sam Houston. It was a special day for me and an unusual one in the history of Purple Heart award ceremonies. It isn't often that a PFC machine gunner climbs the military ladder of success to retire as a colonel and is awarded a Purple Heart and Good Conduct Medal by a Lt. General with the medic that initially treated him in attendance - thirty-eight years after the event.



LTG Robert Clark

Col(R) Kenneth W. Pfeiffer

## New Subscribers

June 16, 2005 through  
September 7, 2005

CW4(R) Demery Austin  
2/327 4/67-8/67 - 4/06  
P.O. Box 519  
Buies Creek, NC 27506

Robert B. Brown  
326 ENGR A 7/65-7/66 - 4/06  
340 Ridgeway Circle  
Troutville, VA 24175-5820

Anthony A. Burgee  
2/327 B 12/65-12/66 - 4/06  
1116 E. Price St.  
Philadelphia, PA 19138-1809

Ronald Fithen  
406 RRD 1/327 5/67-5/68 - 1/06  
101 Norris Road  
Rayland, OH 43943

Garold L. "Gary" Greer  
2/502 5/66-5/67 - 4/06  
804 Houston St.  
West Columbia, TX 77486-2838

MAJ(R) W.E. Groves  
HHC (AG) 6/66-5/67 - 4/06  
576 Coast Oak Circle  
Lawrenceville, GA 30045-6114

James F. Lilly  
2/327 C 65-66 EIT - 4/06  
7 Waterfall Rd.  
Chester Gap, VA 22623

Ghorton R. Mills  
2/502 A 5/67-10/67 - 4/06  
1521 Sweet Myrtle Circle  
Mount Pleasant, SC 29466-8093

Charles A. "Buck" Minderlein  
2/320 Arty A Bty 6/66-8/68-4/06  
5510 Plainfield Ave.  
Baltimore, MD 21206-4223

Mike O'Connell  
1/327 C 2/68 - ? - 1/06  
11 Arrow Drive  
Whitman, MA 02382

Theodore Penton  
2/327 C 67-69 - 1/06  
PO Box 244  
Pearl River, LA 70452

Kenneth Pfeifer  
1/327 C 67-68 - 1/06  
9330 Laurel Grove  
San Antonio, TX 78250

Mitchell Sandlin  
2/502 B 12/66-12/67 - 4/06  
3354 St. Andrews Drive  
Chambersburg, PA 17201

Henry C. Scott  
2/502 C 10/66-10/67 - 4/06  
34543 Joel  
Chesterfield, MI 48047

Michael Shelby  
HHC 1st Bde 65-66 - 4/06  
5600 Kearny-Mesa Road  
San Diego, CA 92111

John H. Sikes, Jr.  
2/502 HHC 4/66-4/67 - 4/06  
11591 Colonial Drive  
Duncanville, AL 35456-1812

Daniel South  
HHC 7/66-8/67 - 4/06  
3200 Red Sails Dr.  
El Paso, TX 79936-1710

MAJ(R) Richard P. Thompson \$  
326 ENGR A 1/64-9/66 - 4/06  
6349 Staghorn Court  
Kingstowne, VA 22315-3433

Frank M. Torre  
1/327 A 65-67 - 4/06  
166A Pillsbury Rd.  
Londonderry, NH 03053-3222

LTG(R) Robert "Greyhound" Yerks  
2/327 Bn CO 67-68 - 4/06  
13900 Shadow Fox Ct.  
Gainesville, VA 20155-1726

Joseph D. Young  
2/502 HHC 65 - 4/06  
803 E Happy Hollow Dr.  
Clarksville, TN 37040

\$ = Above Subscription Price

## Renewals

June 16, 2005 through  
September 7, 2005

Lawrence D. Anglin  
2/502 B 10/60-7/66 - 4/06  
6 Lincoln Drive  
Columbus, NJ 08022-2332

COL(R) Seavy A. Bain  
2/327 HHC & A 6/67-6/68 - 4/06  
3425 Plantation Rd.  
Charlotte, NC 28270-0730

Dean J. Beaupre  
2/502 A 1/67-1/68 - 7/06  
20 North Spruce St., Apt 8 A  
Batavia, NY 14020

COL(R) James R. Bennett  
SPT BN D 7/65-7/66 - 7/06  
6214 Welles Brook  
San Antonio, TX 78240-2105

LTC(R) William Karl Bergman  
2/17 CAV A&B 6/67-5/68 - 4/10  
NSA PSC 79 Box 264  
APO, AE 09714

Hugh R. Black  
1/327 B 10/66-7/67 - 4/06  
P.O. Box 893670  
Mililani, HI 96789-0670

Lawrence P. Boecklen \$  
2/327 B 1/67-1/68 - 7/06  
28730 Altessa Way #201  
Bonita Springs, FL 34135

Cain A. Bridgman  
2/502 HHC 8/65-5/66 - 4/06  
1022 Trojan Run Dr.  
Soddy Daisy, TN 37379-5370

Tom Carhart  
1/327 A 12/67-6/68 - 4/06  
1327 Woodside Drive  
McLean, VA 22102-1529

Bill Carpenter  
1/327 HHC 12/66-12/67 - 10/06  
1041 CR. #14  
Rayland, OH 43943

Daniel K. Cheney  
326 MED D 6/66-6/67 - 4/06  
2195 N. Shore Rd.  
Bellingham, WA 98226

Ken Claypoole \$  
2/327 B 10/66-6/67 - 4/06  
P.O. Box 980752  
West Sacramento, CA 95798

Ronald L. Collins  
2/17 CAV A 12/65-12/66 - 4/09  
1752 130th Ave.  
Hammond, WI 54015-6810

MAJ(R) Billie R. Cook  
SPT BN A & C 65-66 - 4/06  
208 James Landing Cir.  
Smithfield, VA 23430-2316

David S. Cook  
1/327 C 5/65-7/66 ELT - 4/06  
12 Lakeshore Drive  
Winthrop, ME 04364-3919

CPT(R) Joel R. Cosgray  
LSA (1st LOG) 10/69-3/70 - 4/06  
7310 N. Burlington Ave. (N.)  
St. Petersburg, FL 33710-7429

Thomas P. Day  
1/327 HHC TF 12/65-6/66 - 1/06  
9211 159th St. Ct. E.  
Puyallup, WA 98375-6773

LTC(R) Allen C. De Graw  
1/327 CO C 7/65-7/66 EIT- 1/06  
4044 Roscrea Drive  
Tallahassee, FL 32309

Frank M. Drummond  
2/327 C 5/67-12/68 - 4/06  
3714 Norma Dr.  
Chattanooga, TN 37412

Fred Raymond Ellis  
2/327 A 6/66-6/67 - 4/06  
4680 N Waterside Dr.  
Clovis, CA 93611

Gonzalo Estrada, Jr.  
2/502 A 5/66-5/67 - 1/06  
6100 Jemez Dr.  
El Paso, TX 79905-1913

J. A. Every-Clayton  
1/327 A 6/66-6/67 - 4/06  
8549 Water Oak Road  
Baltimore, MD 21234

Dennis M. Fague  
1/327 HHC T.F. 8/66-3/68 - 4/06  
14730 SE 63rd  
Bellevue, WA 98006

Lowell M. Fleenor  
2/327 A 6/66-4/67 - 4/06  
15551 Woodstone Cir.  
Bristol, VA 24202-4027

Bob Garcia  
2/320 FA B EIT 65-66 - 4/06  
105 147th Street NE  
Bradenton, FL 34212

Barry F. Gayer \$  
1/327 HHC 5/66-6/67 - 7/07  
8810 Balcones Club Drive  
Austin, TX 78750-3006

SGT(R) Roy D. Gierke  
2/327 Inf A 4/67-2/68 - 4/06  
448 California St., Lot 75  
Hutchinson, MN 55350-1503

Jim Gould  
2/502 HHC Recon 4/66-3/67-4/06  
PO Box 1870  
Hobe Sound, FL 33475-1870

Eli Haggins  
2/327 A 7/65-4/66 - 4/07  
P. O. Box 3678  
Federal Way, WA 98063-3678

Michael L. Hartness  
1/327 B 4/66-4/67 - 4/06  
406 High St.  
Lowell, NC 28098

Elton M. Heath  
Family (2/327 B 67-69) - 7/06  
1000 Blythwood Place, Apt J 166  
Davenport, IA 52804-3448

Robert P. Hutchinson  
1/327 A 5/67-12/67 - 4/06  
4032 206th St.  
Bayside, NY 11361-2607



MAJ(R) Walter W. Jackson \$ 1/327 C 7/67-6/68 - 4/06 743 Wickham Fen Way Boise, ID 83709-0169	Allen W. Lloyd, CPA 2/327 HHC Recon 4/67-11/67-4/06 P. O. Box 33519 Indialantic, FL 32903-0519	Art Osborne 2/327 7/67-12/67 - 1/06 3650 Denewood Ct. Columbus, GA 31909-3741	1SGT(R) James B. Rawlinson 2/502 12/65-12/66 - 1/06 1597 Sheila Drive Weaver, AL 36277-4538
Joseph L. Jerviss, Sr. 3/506 B 10/67-10/68 - 7/06 3128 Crescent Ave., #82 Marina, CA 93933-3156	Mrs. Dorothy M. McCoid Family (COL(R) Chester B.)-4/06 67 Bell Street Middletown, CT 06457-1507	Charles W. Osentoski 2/502 HHC 12/66-12/67 - 7/06 5975 E Cr. Rd. 200 N. Avon, IN 46123-9555	Rick Salazar 2/327 A 10/65-10/66 - 4/06 9008 Wetherbee Cir Sherwood, AR 72120-4256
LTC(R) James C. Joiner 2/327 B&C 1/67-1/68 - 4/06 6204 Spanish Main Dr. Apollo Beach, FL 33572-2433	Alton E. Mabb, Jr. 2/502 Recon 70-71 - 4/06 P.O. Box 15141 Jacksonville, FL 32239	William L. Palmer 326 ENGR 6/66-7/67 - 4/06 382 CR 272 Tuscola, TX 79562-2744	Harrison Shannon, Jr. 1/327 C 6/65-6/66 - 4/06 201 Greengate Ln. Charlotte, NC 28211-6019
COL Edward P. Kane, U.S.A.(Ret) 326 ENGR A 4/67-4/68 - 4/06 1501 Morgan Lane Wayne, PA 19087-1112	Bruce A. Masters 2/327 A 12/65-7/66 - 4/06 76 Colonial Terr. Bridgeton, NJ 08302-4105	Lewis E. Percy 1/327 C 6/64-6/65 - 4/06 28 Chase St. Auburn, NY 13021-1102	SFC(R) Richard L. Snyder 2/327 A 1/66-2/67 - 4/06 1970 No. Leslie St. #3756 Pahrump, NV 89060-3678
Gordon Kennedy 1st ABG Co D 506th Abn Inf 3rd BDE HHC FC 2/63-7/65 - 4/06 905 Normandy Drive Clinton, MS 39056-3626	Joe Mastriani 2/320 FA C 1/65-6/66 - 4/06 56 Smoke Hill Ridge Marshfield, MA 02050-2576	Donald F. Petersen HHC 2/66-2/67 - 7/06 130 Grand Champion Rd. Wilmington, NC 28412-2614	Jeffery L. Soff 2/502 B 11/69-11/70 - 4/06 1901 Sherwood Drive Tallahassee, FL 32303-4433
Gary L. Kornatowski 1/327 HHC T.F. 66-67 - 7/06 4021 Ridgetop Dr. Cookeville, TN 38506-8664	Donald G. Matthews 2/502 B 2/67-5/67 - 4/07 3812 Puddledock Rd., Lot 114 Prince George, VA 23875-1350	James Peterson 2/502 HHC 64-66 - 4/06 873 Shady Oak Dr. Santa Rosa, CA 95404-2783	Dieter P. Steigerwald, Sr. 2/327 HQ 12/65-12/66 - 7/06 4507 Makyes Road Syracuse, NY 13215-8741
Ed Kurth 1/327 B 11/66-2/68 - 4/06 12 Lakeshore Drive Glassboro, NJ 08028-2718	Morris D. Melton, Jr. 2/327 C 7/65-8/66 EIT - 4/07 226 Hazel Ave. Henryville, IN 47126	Roger A. Phillips, Sr. 1/327 T.F. 4/66-4/67 - 4/06 1000 Madera Drive Shorewood, IL 60431-8975	Walter C. Towers 1/327 A&Tigers 5/66-5/67 - 4/06 8 Joan Dr. Stanhope, NJ 07874-3200
Ray Lake 2/327 B 7/65-7/66 - 7/06 29 Waterworks Rd. Salem, NJ 08079-3006	Kenneth R. Millsbaugh 2/320 FA HHC 7/67-5/68 - 4/06 3720 W. 91st Ave. Merrillville, IN 46410-6858	John Pippin 2/502 A 1/66-2/67 - 7/06 336 Desmond Drive Fayetteville, NC 28314-0135	George B. Vondruska 2/502 A 1/65-7/66 - 4/06 716 South Dennis St. Kennewick, WA 99336-4820
Robert M. (Lance) Lancellotti 2/502 C 10/66-5/68 - 1/06 64 Chaffee Ave. Albertson, NY 11507-1810	Ralph John Mobilio 2/502 HQ 7/65-6/66 - 4/06 9324 6th #B Oscoda, MI 48750	Philip D. Pitcock 2/17 CAV A 12/64-12/65 - 4/06 4982 Gamaliel Rd. Tompkinsville, KY 42167	John P. Wayrynen Family(Dale MOH 2/502 B) -4/06 33198 St. Hwy 65 McGregor, MN 55760-5721
Donald R. Lavolette 2/502 B & C 2/67-2/68 - 4/06 8583 Arabia Road Lumber Bridge, NC 28357	Jay Molyneaux 2/327 HHC 3/67-4/68 - 4/06 8365 Belize Pl Wellington, FL 33414-6447	Freddy A. Pitner 2/327 A 10/65-10/66 - 7/06 2510 S. 61st Ave. Cicero, IL 60804-3041	Frederick R. Williams 1/327 HHC 12/66-8/67 - 7/06 117 Queen Rd. Millville, NJ 08332-7217
Charles Lea 326 MED D 2/67-8/67 - 4/06 Box 485 1124 Franklin Lexington, MO 64067	Roger J. Morris 1/327 C 9/67-9/68 - 7/06 Box R-56, Unit 29622 APO, AE 09096-9622	Joel E. Pittenger 2/320 FA HHB 6/67-6/68 - 4/06 275 Portico Dr. Chesterfield, MO 63017-2207	COL(R) Herbert D. Williams III 2/327 A&B 7/67-6/68 - 7/06 124 Artillery Road Winchester, VA 22602-6945
LTC(R) Fred S. Lindsey 2/327 HHC 4/67-9/67 - 4/06 2218 Burning Tree Lane Carmel, IN 46032-7908	COL(R) Gerry Morse 1/327 C.O. 7/67-6/68 - 4/06 10914 East Twilight Drive Sun Lakes, AZ 85248-7926	COL(R) Richard I. Porter, MD 2/327 HHQ 4/67-4/68 - 4/06 5224 S. Sweetbrair Ct. Sioux Falls, SD 57108-2855	C. C. Wright \$ 2/502 B 63-2/66 - 4/06 721 Crawford St. Belding, MI 48809-1215
Johnnie C. Lindsey DMOR 1/327 Inf HHC 8/66-8/67 - 4/06 1028 Ellen Ave. Wake Village, TX 75501	Robert Mumblow 2/320 HHB 5/67-5/68 - 7/06 126 Pinecrest Drive Chadbourne, NC 28431	Ken Potts \$ 1/327 C 12/66-12/67 - 4/06 1857 N. 185th St. Shoreline, WA 98133-4206	Richard Young 2/320 FA HQ 2/64-2/66 - 4/06 49 King St. Hatfield, MA 01038
	CW4(R) Charlie M. Musselwhite 1/327 HHC 1/64-6/66 EIT- 7/06 1800 62nd Place South St. Petersburg, FL 33712-5722	Terry R. Potts 2/327 C 7/66-5/67 - 4/06 6860 SW 205th Place Aloha, OR 97007-4154	Terry R. Zahn SPT BN HQ EIT 7/65-5/66 - 4/06 14824 Erskine St. Omaha, NE 68116-5123

\$ = Above Subscription Price

## Address Corrections

June 16, 2005 through  
September 7, 2005

Dean J. Beaupre  
2/502 A 1/67-1/68 - 7/06  
20 North Spruce St., Apt 8 A  
Batavia, NY 14020

CSM(R) Ed Burkhalter  
2/502 A 3/67-5/68 - 10/05  
5123 Boone Links Lane  
Columbus, GA 31909

Elton M. Heath  
Family (2/327 B 67-69) - 7/06  
#6 Northwest Crossing  
Davenport, IA 52806

Robert P. Hutchinson  
1/327 A 5/67-12/67 - 4/06  
4032 206th St.  
Bayside, NY 11361-2607

Rick Salazar  
2/327 A 10/65-10/66 - 4/06  
9008 Wetherbee Cir  
Sherwood, AR 72120-4256

Wayne DiBattista  
2/327 C 1/67-12/67  
5674 Kimberton Way  
Lake Worth, FL 33463

Charles J. Dukes Jr.  
2/502 B 7/67-7/68  
26041 Midline Rd.  
Cleveland, TX 77328

James Knox  
2/17 A 1/65-1/66  
Box 6055  
Fort McCoy, WI 54656

LTC(R) Michael H. Magee  
1st BDE HHC 5/67-5/68  
254 Capitan Road  
Roswell, NM 88201

James W. Rose  
1/327 B 2/66-2/67  
Rt. 2, Box 321  
Compton, KY 41301

Ernest Mark Salinas  
1/327 C 67-68  
6110 Fairdale #122  
Houston, TX 77057

David K. Sallee  
1st Bde 66-67  
1132 W Vistoso Highlands Dr.  
Tucson, AZ 85737

Samuel F. Sassaman  
2/327 B 65-66  
2017 Avenue R.  
Huntsville, TX 77340

Richard Schuyler  
2/327 63-66  
127 Fair St. #2  
Meriden, CT 06450

Edward G. Shelton  
801st Maint 65  
1095 Johnson St.  
Idaho Falls, ID 83401

Vernon "Sonny" J. Sonsel  
326 MED dates?  
P.O. Box 5024  
Pasadena, TX 77508

Robert E. Steimer  
326 ENGR A 66  
180 Crawford Rd.  
Downing, PA 19335

John Stephens  
2/502 RECON 65-66  
632 Cherry Street  
Fort Morgan, CO 80701

MAJ(R) Don A. Stiles  
426 S&T 66-67  
10370 Coyote Creek Dr.  
Reno, NV 89521-5157

Edward Ronald Taylor  
3/506 A 10/67-10/68  
3395 Hutcheson Ferry Rd.  
Whitesburg, GA 30185-2232

Foster R. Thayer  
2/502 C 67-68  
2544 Phipps Cir NE  
Salem, OR 97305-1949

Walter F. Thompson  
2/502 A 65-66  
307 N Woodlake Dr.  
Columbia, SC 29229

Kenneth Trotter  
2/327 A dates?  
621 Media  
Louisville, TX 75077

Charles M. "Chuck" Van Sickle  
HHC LRRP 66-68  
1650 Markel Dr.  
Winter Garden, FL 34787-2171

R. Fred Veale  
2/502 B 67-70  
PO Box 539  
Rosman, NC 28772-0539

Leo Wilhelm  
2/502 66-67  
6555 Old Lake Wilson Rd., #81  
Davenport, FL 33837

Charlie W. Williams  
1/327 A 67-68  
7728 Clifdale Rd. #3  
Fayetteville, NC 28314

David R. Williams  
2/327 9/66-9/67  
G 4606 Beecher Rd., F3  
Flint, MI 48532

Walt Williams  
1/327 C 66-67  
8317 39 Ave. SW  
Seattle, WA 98136

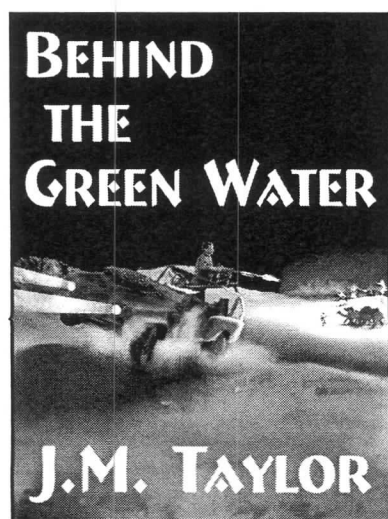
## Bad Addresses

June 16, 2005 through  
September 7, 2005

Roy Agüero  
1/327 C 12/67-12/68  
4983 Apt. D, New Hammon Heights  
Ft. Campbell, KY 42223

## Behind the Green Water - J.M. Taylor

Devon sometimes wished he were back in the Carolina swamps puffing his grandpa's pipe instead of tromping the Iraqi deserts and mountains with the French woman. Before the invasion of Iraq, US Army

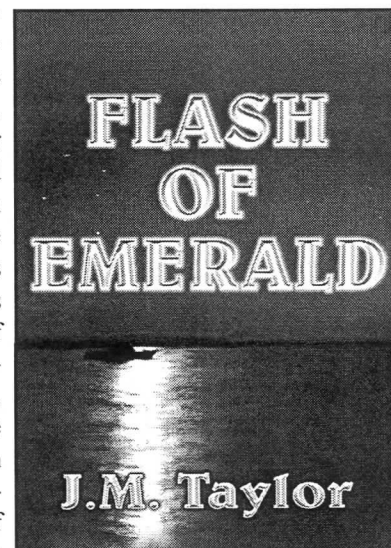


Major Nash Devon is sent into the Northern Iraq Sanctuary Zone on a search for Saddam's weapons of mass destruction where he discovers a nuclear conspiracy that includes America's allies. A thriller with roots in the first Gulf War, Behind the Green Water foretells the crisis between nuclear-capable nations of the Middle East and the religious conflicts that feed the fires of destruction. Behind the Green Water, although fictional, may help you understand the tensions and terror American and

Allied forces are trying to keep at bay. An action-filled novel, Behind the Green Water also explores the mystery of Christ and his family coupled with a mystery that predates Leonardo.

## Flash of Emerald - J.M. Taylor

Flash of Emerald begins with Corporal Harry Stoner as a young Special Forces soldier thrust into the middle of the disastrous and short-lived Cuban counter-revolution, then takes you with a far older and, perhaps wiser, Stoner when he is summoned from his Washington DIA office to revisit the seamy side of Tampa's Ybor City where he is drawn into the middle of a drugs-for-arms transaction. Not just guns, this time the stakes are higher, a nuclear weapon stolen by fanatical terrorists, the beginning of a wild ride across today's South Florida and the Florida Keys where romance with a member of the Conch Republic threatens to sidetrack his mission.

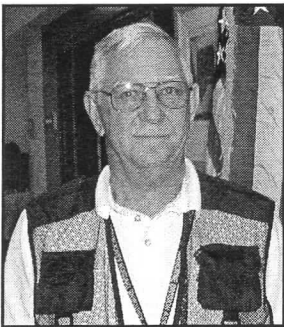


# J. M. Taylor Author

J. M. Taylor's first novel, Flash of Emerald, was released in March 2004 and won the prestigious 2004 EPIE award for Best Thriller. Behind the Green Water, Taylor's next military thriller, set in the Middle East between the Gulf Wars, was released in June 2004. Next in queue is a second Suncoast action/adventure thriller, Gulf Winds. On the horizon are several young adult historical novels starting with Seminole Smoke, some more Sci-Fi, a historical novel set in the Civil War and...finally, the Vietnam novel begun in 1970.

Taylor grew up in Carolina small towns and tobacco farms but went international at an early age when, as an Army brat, he learned the nuances of back-alley Japanese in Tokyo and mastered the fine art of winning Japanese cigarettes in the pachinko parlors. He also discovered his intolerance for excessive alcohol with the headaches of Kirin beer.

Despite his father's advice (an Army man himself), Taylor joined the Army Reserve while still in high school and, after graduating from Savannah High on a Thursday, boarded a Greyhound Bus for Fort Jackson and basic training the following Sunday. As Taylor tells the story, "...I was too short to see what was going on from the back of the formation..." He used ROTC to bolster his otherwise mediocre grades and was commissioned in the Regular Army as a Distinguished Military Graduate from the Georgia Institute of Technology - to finally live his dream - to be a Army Paratrooper with the famous Screaming Eagles, serving first with the 2nd Battalion, 506th Airborne Parachute Infantry Regiment and the 501st Signal Battalion at Fort Campbell, KY. He further proved the academic advisors at Georgia Tech wrong when he completed the 101st Airborne Division Jumpmaster and Air Delivery Courses as an honor graduate.



*John M. Taylor, Jr., 1/501 SIG B 6/65-7/66, was on the 60th Anniversary Reunion Committee.*

Continuing his desire to see the world, he and his platoon were attached to the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division and deployed to Vietnam in 1965 where he discovered Biere LaRue, more often known as tiger piss and rumored to be used interchangeably for formaldehyde, and Ba Moui Ba, or, in the more elegant French, Biere 33, the finer of the two Vietnamese beers. Ah, more headaches.

Once again defying the wisdom of the academics, he graduated with honor from the Infantry Officers Advance Course and instructed at the Fort Benning Infantry Center before completing graduate school at North Carolina State University at Raleigh, to be rewarded by a second fully funded tour of Southeast Asia. Next came staff assignments, including Bavaria, where he became a connoisseur of jaeger schnitzel, ski slopes and the many regional beers of Bavaria.

Again facing down the trials of the classroom at the Armed Forces Staff College, Taylor followed with an intensive bit of nuclear weapons on-the-job-training and served as the Army Strategic Nuclear Plans and Programs staff officer. When he escaped the Pentagon's Alas, Babylon environment, he joined the Rapid



*On a mountain top radio relay site overlooking Qui Nhon, South Vietnam 1965*

Deployment Joint Task Force in Florida during its evolution into US Central Command and enjoyed the benefits of exotic and fun-filled operations in the Middle East while learning about the wonders of Stella beer - a Cairo exclusive and taste-wise a close cousin of Biere LaRue - and taking a Russian's place in the bowels of an Egyptian Air Defense complex.

Twenty years after his first assignment with the 101st Airborne Division, he returned to Fort Campbell where, under the watchful eyes of twenty-year old grizzled instructors he survived Air Assault School and commanded the 501st Signal Battalion (Air Assault) and served as the Division Signal Officer. He finally got to move to the front of the formation where he could see what was going on.

Following a return assignment with Central Command, Taylor retired from the Army to work as a telecommunications system engineer on military C4I programs and as a project manager for advanced technology R&D programs. Much to his surprise, he found himself traveling to Europe and the Middle East, and continuing to monitor Stuttgarter Hofbraeu quality.

He now writes and lives with his family on the Florida Suncoast where he has discovered Ybor Gold and Honduran cigars.

Taylor is a life member of the 101st Airborne Division Association, the Military Officers Association of America and the Association of the United States Army.

He also is an active member of the Mystery Writers of America, and initiated the series of Children's "How to Write" workshops in 1997 at the St. Petersburg Times Reading Festival. He is a member of the Florida Writers Association and the Electronically Published Internet Connection (EPIC) and past president of the Tampa Writers Alliance.

*Editor's Note: John is most proud of the enthusiastic response written by the Commanding Officer of the 501st Signal Battalion after receiving copies of Behind the Green Water for him and for his troops in Iraq. For more information about his books write him at: 23745 Oakside Blvd. Lutz, FL 33549-6904, Phone: work (813) 949-9074 or home (813) 948-7747; e-mail: admin@taylorcommunications.biz*



# 60TH ANNUAL REUNION

## 101ST Airborne Division Association

The reunion was great! The Reunion Committee was hard working and well organized.  
The hospitality room was large and the drinks and snacks were delectable.

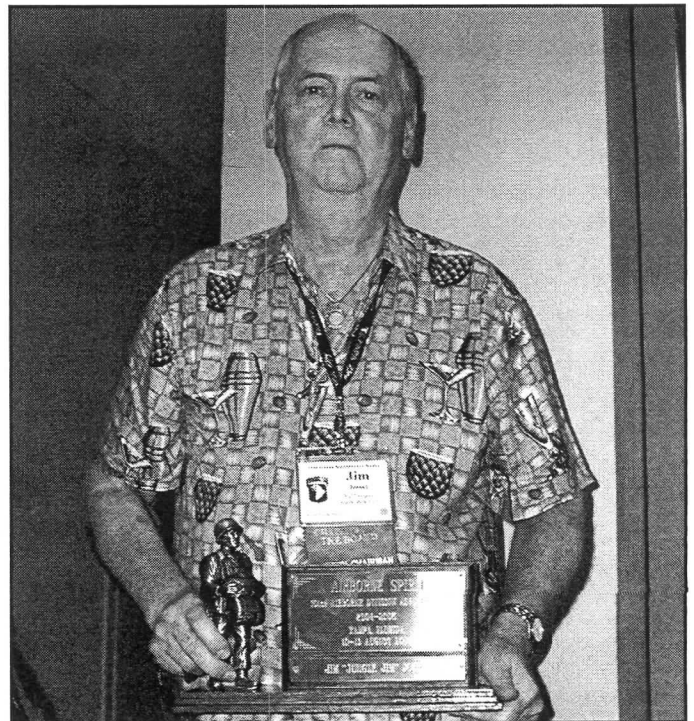
A number of 1st Brigade (S) veterans were elected to association offices and honored. 101st Association Chairman of the Board LTC(R) James C. Joiner, 2/327 B&C 1/67-1/68, was reelected to serve another year as Chairman and was chosen as the recipient of the Roy R. "Pappy" Norris Spirit Award. In his spare time Jim served as Reunion Chairman.

1st Brigade (S) veterans serving on the board of Governors of the Association are: MAJ(R) Ivan Worrell, INFO OFF 5/66-5/67, 327th 2nd Year Primary; MAJ(R) Walter W. Jackson, 1/327 C 7/67-6/68, 327th 1st Year Alternate; Charles R. Gant, 2/502 A&D 12/67-12/68, 502nd 1st Year Primary; Ron Gillette, 2/502 B 1/67-5/67, 502nd 1st Year Alternate; Leonard Mark "Glenn" Williams, 326 MED D 7/67-1/68, 502nd 2nd Year Primary; Freeman B. Dallas, 3/506, 506th 1st Year Alternate; Joe R. Alexander, 3/506 A 10/67-10/68, 506th 2nd Year Alternate; Chuck Slezak, AVN 9/65-9/66, Aviation 2nd Year Primary; 1st SGT(R) Billy C. Colwell, Sr., 326 ENGR A 4/66-4/67, Combat Support 1st Year Primary, he also serves as Chairman of the Monument Committee and of the Screaming Eagle Support Fund Committee; LTC(R) James F. Shamblen, 326 ENGR A 66-67, Combat Support 1st Year Alternate; John M. Taylor, Jr., 1/501 SIG B 6/65-7/66, Combat Support 2nd Year Alternate; Terry R. Zahn, SPT BN HQ 7/65-5/66, DISCOM 1st Year Primary.

LTC(R) Richard C. Schonberger, 2/327 HHC 7/66-7/67, serves as the Chairman of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee and of the Membership Committee. For complete information about Association Officers, Board Members and committees see The Screaming Eagle Magazine. Information about how to contact the Association office for membership information is on page 36.



The new Association President is COL(R) Larry A. Redmond, 2/327 A 5/67-2/68. He will serve two years in that position. The Immediate Past President is Johnny Velasquez, 2/502 B VN 67-68.



101st Association Chairman of the Board LTC(R) James C. Joiner, 2/327 B&C 1/67-1/68, is this years recipient of the Roy R. "Pappy" Norris Spirit Award. In addition to his duties as Chairman of the Board "Jungle Jim" served as Reunion Chairman and had a heart transplant six weeks before the reunion. (Worrell Pix)



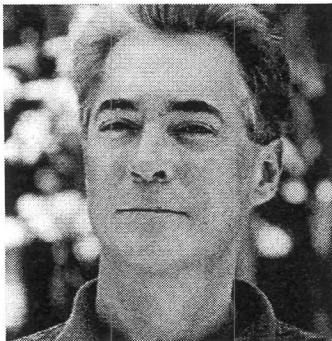
**1.** Michael P. Perry, 2/502 C 5/67-5/68, one of our reunion hosts. **2.** LTC(R) James F. Shamblen, 326 ENGR A 66-67, and his wife Becki.(Photo by Ken Hamill) **3.** Lawrence D. "Larry" Anglin, 2/502 B 10/60-7/66, and his wife Ionie.(Photo by Ken Hamill) **4.** Douglas N. Field, 2/327 B 4/66-12/67, and his wife Arline. **5.** Gene "Hard Core" Perry, 2/327 HHC 7/67-7/68, and his wife Shelly, members of the reunion committee. (Photo by Ken Hamill) **6.** James D. Agins, 326 MED B 7/66-2/67, and his wife Diane. (Photo by Ken Hamill) **7.** (L to R) Roderick J. Marshall, 2/327 HHQ Hawks 5/66-5/67 and LTC(R) Richard C. Schonberger, 2/327 HHC 7/66-7/67, pose for an after dinner picture. (Worrell Pix) **8.** SFC(R) Malcolm G. McHoul, 326 MED D 7/65-5/66, and his wife Debbie near the bar where he dispensed libations and in front of the table she kept stocked with snacks for the hungry and thirsty Screaming Eagle veterans and their families. (Worrell Pix) **9.** Jesse W. Myers, Jr., 2/327 HHC & C 6/67-6/68, and his wife Chloe.



## “Those Magnificent Dawgs of War!”

Focus on: CW-4 Charlie Madison Musselwhite

By: Tom Willard, DMOR, 1/327 RECON Med 7-11/65  
1711 Valle Moor Dr., Bismarck, ND 58501-2579  
(701) 250-8903  
tiger1-327abn@home.com



Tom Willard

Charlie Madison Musselwhite was born 3 May 32, in Cordele, Georgia. He joined the US Army 11 Oct 48, at the age of 16, and would rise from Private E-1 to the rank of Chief Warrant - 4, before retiring 31 Oct 78. Mr. Musselwhite was the first 1/327 Master Sergeant promoted to Warrant Officer in Vietnam in 1966. His bars were personally pinned on him by Brigade Commander BG

Willard Pearson. Upon retirement, he was CW-4 in Iran, where he stood steadfast protecting the massive equipment of the United States, and following the take-over of the Ayatollah Khomeini, he and his family were forced from the country wearing nothing but the clothes on their backs.

In his thirty years of service, twenty years were spent in foreign theatres: Okinawa; Korea; England; France; Germany (two tours - Airborne status with the 8th Division); Vietnam (two tours); 4th Infantry at Fort Lewis and Fort Carson; Italy; Ecuador; and Iran.

No stranger to being recognized for his leadership and performance, in 1964, Charlie was one of twenty-five airborne soldiers selected to make the historical “Market Garden Commemoration Jump,” at Zon, Holland. He was the only soldier selected from the 1/327 for the event, and given the honor of jumping with the Division Colors of the 101st Airborne Division.

In 1965, Charlie and a few thousand troopers went on a “cruise!” aboard the USS General Leroy Eltinge, and we became known as the “Boat People,” later, the “Nomads.” Like so many “young troopers,” I was fortunate(?) to be a Combat Medic in Recon, later “A” (ABU) Co., 1/327, and under the guidance of great NCOs and officers. No NCO was more highly thought of by the troopers than Charlie, whose strong sense of leadership, versatility, courage and dedication to his troops was instrumental in keeping the casualty list lower than it would have been without his presence.

Charlie served in many capacities with the 1st Brigade, including 1/327 Battalion Maintenance Officer; NCOIC Bn. Maintenance; HHC 1SGT; S-3 Operations Sergeant; and was HHC 1st Sgt when Tiger Force was originally formed in 1965. His service in 1/327 ranges from 1964 through 1966; later, with the 502nd in 1966.



Charlie Musselwhite at Tuy Hoa, 1966, directing his troops under fire.

Known for his rugged --- often raucous --- sense of humor and earthy language, Charlie is a gentleman (by an Act of Congress), a great patriot and --- most of all --- a leader/warrior. On the day after 9/11 we spoke of that terrible event, its treachery and long-term impact on the nation. He assured me and others that our nation would survive and make the enemy pay. The 1st Bde has made that prophecy come true. When I mentioned that American flags began flying from millions of homes throughout America on that day, he responded, “Why weren’t the sonsabitches flyin’ the flag before 9/11!”

That’s Charlie, a zero-tolerance man when it comes to shirkers and slackers. He truly is a legendary character and soldier in the annals of the 1st Brigade.

Mr. Musselwhite’s decorations and badges include: AOM; GCMDL (4th award); CIB; VSM; NDSM (1olc); MAST PRCHT BAD; RVNMC; MUC; OS BARS (4); PUC; VUA; BSM (1olc); ARCOM (4olc); LM; JSCM; MSM; AM; RVNCG w/Palm; PRCHT BAD; SR PRCHT BAD; VN DEFENSIVE; VN CTR OFF; VN CTR OFF PH III; TET CTR OFF; VN CTR OFF PH IV; VN CTR OFF PH V; VN CTR OFF PH VI.

Charlie now lives at 1800 62nd Place South, St. Petersburg, FL 33712. Telephone: (727) 866 - 8346 FAX: (727) 866 - 8346. His e-mail is charjacqm@aol.com. He and his wife Jacqueline have a son, Daniel, who retired as CSM in the 82nd Airborne Division, and a daughter, Linda. His grandson Vaughn Musselwhite, was a trooper in the 82nd Airborne Division, serving in Iraq.







Issue #1



Issue #2



Issue #3



Issue #4



Issue #5



Issue #6



Issue #7



Issue #8



Issue #9



Issue #10



Issue #11



Issue #12



Issue #13



Issue #14



Issue #15



Issue #16



Issue #17



Issue #18



Issue #19



Issue #20



Issue #21



Issue #22



Issue #23



Issue #24



Issue #25



Issue #26



Issue #27



Issue #28



Issue #29



Issue #30

**1st BRIGADE (SEPARATE) ITEMS FOR SALE**

**ORDER FORM - PLEASE CIRCLE SIZE NEEDED OR NUMBER OF BACK ISSUE**

QUANTITY	ITEM	COST
_____	1st BDE(S) logo cap \$8.00 + \$3.85 postage (\$11.85)	_____
_____	101st ABN DIV Screaming Eagle logo cap \$8.00 + \$3.85 (\$11.85)	_____
_____	1st BDE(S) 101st ABN DIV Logo Cap \$8.00 + \$3.85 (\$11.85)	_____
_____	101st ABN DIV logo T-shirt S, M, L, XL \$12.00 + \$3.85 (\$15.85)	_____
_____	101st ABN DIV logo T-shirt XXL & XXXL \$14.00 + \$3.85 (\$17.85)	_____
_____	101st ABN DIV logo Golf shirt S, M, L, XL \$20.00 + \$3.85 (\$23.85)	_____
_____	101st ABN DIV logo Golf shirt XXL & XXXL \$22.00 + \$3.85 (\$25.85)	_____
_____	1st BDE(S) logo T-shirt S, M, L, XL \$12.00 + \$3.85 (\$15.85)	_____
_____	1st BDE(S) logo T-shirt XXL & XXXL \$14.00 + \$3.85 (\$17.85)	_____
_____	1st BDE(S) logo Golf shirt S, M, L, XL \$20.00 + \$3.85 (\$23.85)	_____
_____	1st BDE(S) logo Golf shirt XXL & XXXL \$22.00 + \$3.85 (\$25.85)	_____
_____	1st BDE(S) 101st ABN DIV. Logo T-shirt S, M, L, XL \$12.00 + \$3.85 (\$15.85)	_____
_____	1st BDE(S) 101st ABN DIV. Logo T-shirt XXL & XXXL \$14.00 + \$3.85 (\$17.85)	_____
_____	1st BDE(S) 101st ABN DIV. Logo Golf Shirt S, M, L, XL \$20.00 + \$3.85 (\$23.85)	_____
_____	1st BDE(S) 101st ABN DIV Logo Golf Shirt XXL & XXXL \$22.00 + \$3.85 (\$25.85)	_____
_____	<b>VIETNAM ODYSSEY</b> , \$15.00 postpaid	_____
_____	<b>BACK ISSUES of The Diplomat &amp; Warrior 1, 2, 3, 4</b> (\$7.50 each postpaid)	_____
_____	<b>BACK ISSUES of First Screaming Eagles in Viet Nam 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30</b> (\$7.50 each postpaid)	_____
_____	Reprint of the December 1967 <b>Screaming Eagle Magazine</b> (\$7.50 each postpaid)	_____
_____	<b>Thoughts Memories and Tears</b> poems by Peter S. Griffin (\$20.00 each postpaid)	_____
_____	<b>Plastic Auto Tag</b> (\$5.00 [\$8.00 with magnets] each postpaid)	_____
_____	<b>Label quality sticker 4 inch diameter full color logo</b> (4 labels \$2.50 postpaid)	_____
_____	<b>Engraved Zippo Lighter</b> 3 lines 16 characters each \$20.00 + (\$3.85 postage) (\$23.85)	_____
_____	<b>Decal for inside and outside use full color four inch round</b> (\$2.50 each postpaid)	_____
_____	<b>Airborne Salute - Audio Cassette or CD Circle One</b> (\$15.00 each postpaid)	_____
_____	<b>1st Brigade(S) Challenge Coin</b> (\$8.00 each postpaid)	_____

**TOTAL**



1st Brigade Logo T Shirt Full Color



1st Brigade Logo Golf Shirt Full Color



1st Brigade Logo Cap Full Color



101st ABN DIV Screaming Eagle Logo



1st BDE (S) Logo



1st BDE (S) 101st ABN DIV Logo

**SHIP TO:** Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Send check or money order made payable to: - The First Screaming Eagles \* P.O. Box 675 • Sweetwater, TN 37874-0675  
No credit cards, e-mail or phone orders can be accepted. Please allow 4 to 6 weeks for delivery • No returns accepted. Most orders shipped by  
U.S. Postal Service Priority Mail. • ALL ORDERS OUTSIDE U.S. ADD \$6.00 PER ITEM.**

# airborne salute

AIRBORNE SALUTE  
Recorded in 1959  
Now on CD and tape

United States Military Academy Band  
and voices of the Cadet Glee Club

- (1) The XVIII Airborne Corps March
- (2) Beautiful Streamer
- (3) Down From Heaven [11th Airborne Division Song]
- (4) The All American Soldier [82d Airborne Division Song]
- (5) Screaming Eagles [101st Airborne Division Song]
- (6) March of the New Infantry [Paratrooper Song]
- (7) Blood on the Risers
- (8) The Army Goes Rolling Along

**\$15.00 Postpaid for CD or tape**

(Has some surface noise from the 1959 record used to make the new master.)

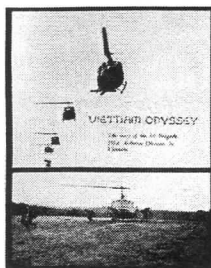
## 1st Brigade (S) CHALLENGE COIN

This challenge coin is a beautiful example of taking a great design and having skilled artists produce a coin that any unit would be proud of. Designed by Roger M. John [1/327 C 7/67-12/68] for the 9th Biennial 1st Brigade (S) Reunion in Phoenix, Arizona in September of 2004, it is appropriate for any use or time because it is not identified with that reunion.



[Actual 1 1/2 inch size]

The 1 1/2 inch diameter coin is crafted in vivid colors, has a beveled edge and is coated with a clear acrylic to preserve the coin's surface. (It is unfortunate that it cannot be shown here in color.) Cost is \$8.00 per coin, postpaid. See page 32 for order form.



**Viet Nam**  
*Odyssey a comprehensive history of the 1st year the 1st Brigade served in Viet Nam.*  
**108 pages four pages color**



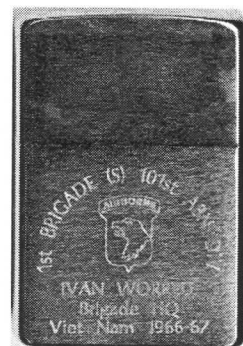
Dec. '67 Reprint  
History July '65 - Dec. '67



The 1st Brigade (S) plastic auto tag is not new but it has been improved. It now can be ordered with magnets on the back so it can be attached to any ferrous metal surface. Regular tag without magnets \$5.00. Improvement costs \$3.00 - total price \$8.00.

## 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.



See Order Form Page 32

Cost \$20.00 + \$3.85  
Postage (\$23.85)



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.



# TENTH BIENNIAL REUNION

FIRST BRIGADE (SEPARATE)

101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION

The FIRST SCREAMING EAGLES in VIET NAM

Atlanta, Georgia September 20 – 24, 2006

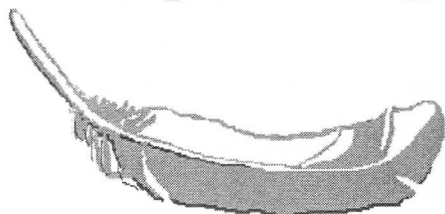
Marriott Atlanta Airport Hotel (in College Park, GA)

- Registration will begin on September 20th at noon
- Major General (R) Jerry A. White [1/327 A 7/66-7/67] will be our host for a tour of Fort Benning, the New Infantry Museum and lunch on September 21st, 2006. (Bus transportation and lunch estimated at \$30.00 per person)
- Memorial Luncheon on September 22nd
- 1st Brigade (S) Banquet on September 23rd
- BIG well stocked Hospitality Room
- Large PX (sales area)
- Military History display room
- Book signings by 1st Brigade Authors
- Hotel provides Airport Shuttle
- Free (self) Parking
- \$89.00 per night rate (+ tax). Limited discounted rooms so make reservations early (reservations can be made after September 25th 2005 at 1-800-228- 9290) ask for 1st Screaming Eagle group rate.
- Discounted room rate good three days before and three days after the reunion for those who wish to vacation in the Atlanta area
- Active Duty 1st Brigade leaders will be asked to brief veterans on state of the brigade if they are not deployed.
- Work on detailed itinerary and registration information is in progress and will be available soon.

For additional information contact Ivan Worrell;  
phone or fax (423)337-5983 or e-mail [firstbrigades101magazine@yahoo.com](mailto:firstbrigades101magazine@yahoo.com).

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

### Report to Vietnam

Upon completion of Jump School we were all given orders to report to Vietnam as our next duty station, with 30 days leave in-route. The highlight of this revelation was the comment of one of my friends when he found out where we were going. “Auggie” stood in the processing line with us and said, “I don’t want to go to Vietnam. All I came in the Army to do was be a cook. How come they’re sending me to Vietnam?” The expression on his face was surprised and concerned. It was hard to believe he didn’t understand what all the training we went through was for. He never did get to be a cook. He may have just been joking to break the tension, but he sure did look serious.

In the middle of July 1966 there was an airplane strike. Many of us going north on leave, left Georgia by train. We wore our khaki dress uniforms. The only distinctive difference between us and other soldiers were our hats, boots and wings. Our garrison cap was worn cocked to one side above our eyebrow and displayed a glider patch. We were also authorized to wear our pants bloused in jump boots, and of course the “Silver Wings” on the flap of our left breast pocket. There were quite a few of us when we started, but the further north we got the soldiers disembarked at their respective stops. Finally, only two of us remained. Taking advantage of a layover for several hours in Washington, D.C., we left the train station and *did some sightseeing*. The other fellow with me started talking to a girl walking toward us. He said, “Don’t I know you from somewhere?” I was embarrassed and started walking away until she said, “Maybe you do.” The girl was friendly and spent time guiding us around Washington. It turned out she was a Congressman’s secretary and she got us tickets to the Senate and House of Representatives. It was a little demoralizing when she thought Airborne meant we were in the Air Force, but probably would have helped anyone in uniform. What a fitting and memorable experience to see the historical buildings and museums which represent our

country as we were about to go overseas to fight in its name.

Upon arrival in Vietnam we were bussed to a replacement station called Long Bien. Being the rainy season it was a sea of mud. Much work needed doing since the compound was in its early days of construction. Tents filled with bunk beds sat right on the dirt and wherever you walked mud caked up several inches thick on your boots. Each morning we awoke and put our wet muddy boots on and went to breakfast. Pancakes were served once with little bugs in them. I tried to pick them out with my fork but there were too many. I was so hungry I ate them, bugs and all. After breakfast, each day, we formed up in a big formation and names were called of soldiers being assigned to units. After the assigned soldiers left, the remaining soldiers were divided up for work details. The Sergeants separated workers from the formation a detail at a time until there were only a handful of soldiers left. Only one time was I lucky enough to miss being picked and I got to sit around writing letters all day. Several times I was on construction projects, but I did get introduced to burning the shithouse. A story went around that someone had once burnt the shithouse down when told to do so. Actually, the job required opening hinged doors at the rear of the building, and pulling out the cut-off metal drums full of feces to burn. Black smoke from the diesel fuel used to fuel the fires billowed skyward with the wind. It was important not to burn yourself, or get caught down wind.

All the Airborne soldiers got to burn the shithouse for disciplinary reasons. During one of the morning formations all of us were called out by name and formed into a small separate formation. A Sergeant stood in front of us and told us we were on an “Airborne hold.” All the Airborne units were completely up to strength at that time, and our assignments were purposely delayed. We were afraid our little group was going to be picked for a work detail so when the Sergeant turned his back our formation started to break-up. When he saw us slinking away he stopped us and we all ended up burning shit together. In retaliation, we worked out a plan. Only the Airborne soldiers knew how to do it. We all had to make the morning formation because we might get called to our unit assignments. If we missed the movement it could be cause for strict disciplinary action. The plan went like this-- we waited until any name was called, and yelled, “here.” It wasn’t noticeable that several people answered at once as we ran to the formation of newly assigned soldiers. If we really got called we were already in the formation. All we had to do was wait for the bus transport but instead of boarding it, we went back to our tents. No Airborne soldiers pulled details during my stay at the replacement station again.

**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**

**Phone or FAX 1-423-337-5983**

**e-mail: firstbrigades101magazine@yahoo.com**

**CHECK OUT THE**

**1ST BRIGADE (SEPARATE) WEB SITE AT**

**www.101stabndiv1stbrigade.com**

**THE FIRST SCREAMING EAGLES IN VIET NAM**

is published quarterly by Worrell Publications, Post Office Box 675, 117 1/2 North Main Street, Sweetwater, Tennessee 37874-0675, as a service to veterans who served in the 1st Brigade (Separate), 101st Airborne Division from July 1965 through January 1968 and is mailed Standard A postage paid under Postal Permit 101, Sweetwater, Tennessee 37874.

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.

# Deadline

**Material to be published in the  
JANUARY 2006 issue of The First  
SCREAMING EAGLES In  
Viet Nam is Due December 1st, 2005**

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

Please fill out, cut out and mail to:

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

CORRECT ADDRESS beginning (Date) \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

FAX: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

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 initiative 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).

## Some Airborne Associations of interest to 1st Brigade veterans

### STATIC LINE

Don Lassen

Box 87518 • College Park, GA 30337-0518  
Phone: 770-478-5301 • FAX: 770-961-2838  
Email: don@staticlinemagazine.com

### 101st Airborne Division Association

Jordan L. Jeffcoat

2703 Michigan Ave. • P.O. Box 929  
Fort Campbell, KY 42223-0929  
Phone: 270-439-0445 • FAX: 270-439-6645  
Email: jeffcoat@comcast.net

### 327th ABN INF Assoc (Vietnam)

David S. Cook

12 Lakeshore Dr. • Winthrop, ME 04364  
Phone: 207-377-2186  
E-Mail: cookdsmg@adelphia.net

### THE AIRBORNE QUARTERLY

COL (R) William E. Weber

10301 McKinstry Mill Road  
New Windsor, MD 21776-7903  
Phone: 410-775-7733  
FAX: 410-775-7760  
Email: eagle187@direcway.com

PLEASE SEND INFORMATION TO:

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ UNIT \_\_\_\_\_

FROM \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_  
MONTH/YEAR MONTH/YEAR



**INSIDE BACK COVER**

The following will give you some insight into the contents of this issue of The FIRST SCREAMING EAGLES in Viet Nam. I thank each of you who have contributed material to make this magazine possible.

**BG(R) JOHN W. COLLINS, III** .....PAGE 1  
General "Rip" Collins was the last commander of the 1st Brigade (S) in Viet Nam.

**COL(R) EDMOND P. ABOOD** .....PAGES 2 - 3  
An obituary, story relating to his induction into the Ranger Hall of Fame and the text of the citation awarding him the Distinguished Service Cross.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR** .....PAGES 4 - 9  
Messages received from and about veterans of the 1st Brigade (S) gathered from the brigade web site, e-mails and sent through the U.S. Postal Service. Most of the messages are from subscribers although material from those who do not subscribe is welcome if it pertains to veterans of the brigade or the 26-month history of the brigade in Viet Nam.

**OBITUARIES** .....PAGE 10  
The only obituary received this quarter was that of Glenn Hoppert who was one of the driving forces behind the 1990 Division Association Reunion in Washington, D. C., which celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the Airborne.

**COL(R) Melvin Garten** .....PAGE 11  
An Army Times recognition of COL Garten, who was awarded the DSC for bravery in Korea, in a series about Bravery and Sacrifice, and the text of his DSC citation.

**TRUNG LUONG DUSTOFF** .....PAGES 12 - 13  
Material from Ron Martin and Tom Furgeson about the Helicopter Medical Evacuation during the Battle of Trung Luong.

**TRUNG LUONG STORY** .....PAGES 13 - 16  
An account of the battle of Trung Luong published in the Philadelphia Inquirer in April of 2000 that is a natural companion piece for the Trung Luong Dustoff story.

**DIPLOMAT AND WARRIOR** .....PAGES 17 - 20  
Volume 1, Number 27 dated November 25th, 1966 of the 1st Brigade weekly newspaper containing stories about operations in Phu Yen province and has photos and references to some of the magazine's subscribers and about many who are not subscribers.

**GEN W. C. WESTMORELAND** .....PAGES 21 - 22  
Comments, pictures and an obituary of General William C. Westmoreland who was the Brigade's best supporter in Viet Nam and always appeared to be proud of the Brigade's accomplishments.

**PURPLE HEART CEREMONY** .....PAGE 23  
Story of a very long delayed award of the Purple Heart to Ken Pfeiffer by General Robert Clark who is a past Commanding General of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) and now 5th Army Commander.

**SUBSCRIBERS' LIST** .....PAGES 24 - 26  
This list contains new subscribers, renewing subscribers, address corrections and bad addresses collected from returned mail. If you know the correct address of any of the bad addresses, please contact the editor.

**J. M. TAYLOR, AUTHOR** .....PAGES 26 - 27  
Story of the assignments that brought LT John M. Taylor from the 1st Brigade (S) to CO of the 501st Signal Battalion at Fort Campbell and a work of fiction that was of interest to 101st troops in Iraq.

**60TH 101ST ASSN REUNION** .....PAGES 28 - 29  
A report on the 1st Brigade (S) veterans serving in 101st Airborne Division Association offices and as Committee Chairmen along with some photos from the Reunion in Tampa in August.

**CW4(R) CHARLIE MUSSELWHITE** .....PAGE 30  
A new quarterly feature by Tom Willard, 1/327 RECON Med 7-11/65, which will feature those he considers "Those Magnificent Dawgs of War." Tom is the author of a series of books about an Army family beginning with a veteran Buffalo soldier to a Desert Storm helicopter pilot from the same family.

**ITEMS FOR SALE** .....PAGES 31 - 33  
The items for sale are shown on pages 31 and 33 with an order form on page 32.

**FIRST BRIGADE REUNION 2006** .....PAGE 34  
The contract for the Atlanta hotel is signed and costs are being calculated to determine a registration fee. Hotel reservations can be made now using the 800 number shown.

**ON WINGS OF EAGLES** .....PAGE 35  
Another in the ongoing series of the experiences of Kenneth B. Taylor, 2/327 C 8/66-8/67. This episode is titled Report to Vietnam.

**FIRST RENEWAL NOTICE FOR October 2005 EXPIRATIONS**

**If your mailing label shows this date.**

UNIT AND DATES 10/05  
JOHN DOE  
MAILING ADDRESS  
CITY, STATE ZIP

Please check the label on the back cover of this magazine. If the date on the right of the first line is 10/05 this is your last magazine until you renew your subscription. Subscription renewal (\$20.00 for one (1) year), now, will assure that you do not miss an issue of this chronicle of the history of the ALWAYS FIRST BRIGADE in Viet Nam. The date shown indicates the date of the final magazine you will receive with your current subscription. Please complete changes only. Your address label is on the other side of this form. For overseas postage add \$20.00 per year.

(PLEASE PRINT)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (H) \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE (W) \_\_\_\_\_ EXT \_\_\_\_\_

FAX \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY \_\_\_\_\_ BATTALION \_\_\_\_\_ BRIGADE \_\_\_\_\_ DIVISION 101ST ABN.DIV. \_\_\_\_

I SERVED IN THE 1ST BRIGADE (S) FROM \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_

MONTH/YEAR MONTH/YEAR

ONE YEAR SUBSCRIPTION \$20.00

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: **The First SCREAMING EAGLES**

MAIL TO: P.O. BOX 675, SWEETWATER, TN 37874-0675

AMOUNT ENCLOSED - \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (No Credit Cards Please) Phone/Fax (423) 337-5983 E-MAIL: firstbrigades101magazine@yahoo.com



CHU LAI, Vietnam--BOOBY TRAP FOILED. Standing in the hole left by a booby-trapped 250-pound bomb is Staff Sgt. George W. Tollinger, Lancaster, Pa., a combat engineer with the 101st Airborne. Tollinger dismantled the detonating device and blew the bomb with a demolition charge. The Viet Cong prepare such traps on possible helicopter landing zones. (USA Photo by Staff Sgt. Mike Mangiameli)

*(Photo from the collection of COL(R) Edwin P. "Ted" Geesey, HHC 5/67-5/68).*

**THE FIRST SCREAMING EAGLES IN VIET NAM**

P.O. Box 675

Sweetwater, TN 37874-0675

Phone & Fax: (423) 337-5983

e-mail:

[firstbrigades101magazine@yahoo.com](mailto:firstbrigades101magazine@yahoo.com)

Web Site:

[www.101stabndiv1stbrigade.com](http://www.101stabndiv1stbrigade.com)

*Address Service Requested*



**THE FIRST SCREAMING EAGLES IN VIET NAM**

office has no capability to pre-program address changes. A change of address is required each time a subscriber moves. If you are going to be "Temporarily Away" ask your Postmaster to hold your magazine.

STANDARD A  
U. S. Postage  
PAID  
Sweetwater, TN  
37874  
PERMIT No. 101