

*The First
Screaming*

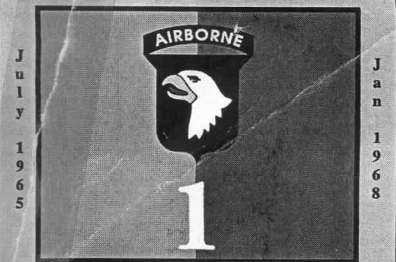
A HISTORICAL REVIEW OF
THE 1ST BRIGADE (Separate) 101st AIRBORNE DIVISION
in Viet Nam from July 1965 through January 1968



Published Quarterly
January - April - July - October

*Eagles
in Viet Nam*

1st Brigade (Separate) Viet Nam



101st Airborne Division

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The ALWAYS FIRST Brigade



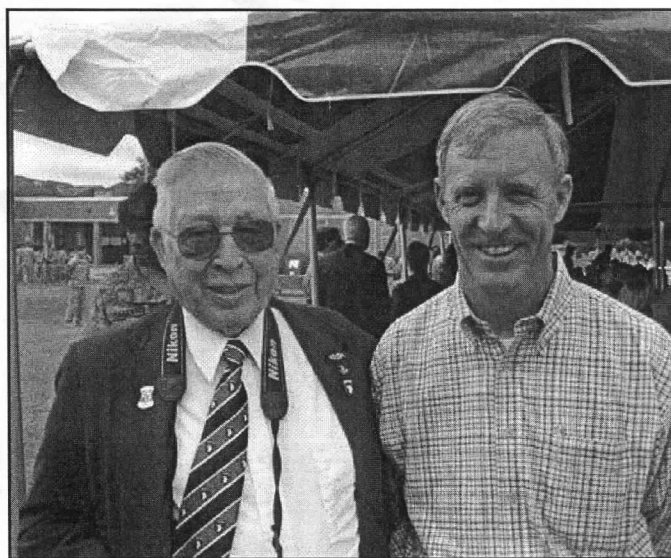
**FIRST LIEUTENANT JAMES A. GARDNER
TIGER FORCE COMMANDER
POSTHUMOUS MEDAL OF HONOR
FOR ACTIONS FEBRUARY 7, 1966**

This magazine is produced by and for veterans of the ALWAYS FIRST BRIGADE who served in the brigade from July 1965 through April 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).

Assembling this issue has been a real exercise in reaching out and gathering material from a wide variety of places. I have had considerable help from John O'Brien, the Installation Historian at Fort Campbell and great cooperation from SFC Kevin Doheny and SGT Richard Rzepka who are the present leaders in the 1st BCT Public Affairs section. All this assistance made the Week of the Eagles stories more complete and interesting. Douglas N. Field, 2/327 B 4/66-12/67, and Arline sent all their pictures from the Welcome Home formations and Tim Swain, HHC S-2 65, in addition to preparing a speech for the Medal of Honor Ceremony sent his photos of all the activities he attended. Many others have helped with letters to the editor and pictures.

The October 6 – 9, 2010, First Brigade (S) Reunion in Omaha, Nebraska, is on track and preparations for mailing reunion registration packets in early 2010 is in the works. **ALL VETERANS OF THE FIRST BRIGADE (S) SHOULD BE AWARE THAT THIS COULD BE THE FINAL "ALWAYS FIRST BRIGADE" REUNION.** If no one volunteers to host a reunion in 2012, Brigade reunions will probably be a thing of the past. Try to make room



(L to R) MAJ(R) Ivan Worrell, INFO OFF 5/66-5/67 and LTC(R) John O'Brien, Fort Campbell, Kentucky, Installation Historian at the First Brigade DMOR Ceremony on August 18, 2009. John O'Brien was the principal, at Fort Campbell, for organizing the Medal of Honor Ceremony to honor First Lieutenant James Gardner the second Medal of Honor recipient in the 101st Airborne Division.

on your schedule to attend this great reunion that Terry R. Zahn, SPT BN HQ Elt 7/65-5/66, and Carol are planning. It really should be outstanding because this will be the fourth Screaming Eagle reunion they have hosted in Omaha. Please start looking now for items to bring to the reunion for the drawing. Two items (a dagger and silver coin) have already been donated by Ken Potts, 1/327 C 12/66-12/67.

The cover art of 1LT James Gardner is a photo taken by SGT Richard L. Rzepka who is assigned to the 1st Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs section. The drawing is now displayed on the stand that holds the original Medal of Honor display in McAuliffe Hall, Headquarters 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) at Fort Campbell, Kentucky.



FIRST LIEUTENANT JAMES A. GARDNER
TIGER FORCE COMMANDER
POSTHUMOUS MEDAL OF HONOR
FOR ACTIONS FEBRUARY 7, 1966



GENERAL ORDERS

No. 49

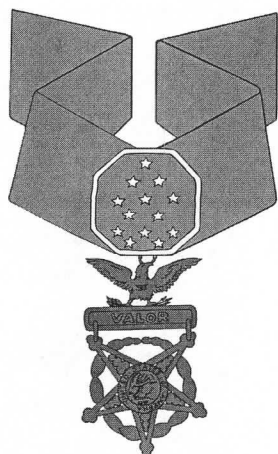
1st Lieutenant
James A. Gardner, MOH

HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, DC, 30 November 1967

AWARD OF THE MEDAL OF HONOR

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

First Lieutenant James A. Gardner, O5321930, United States Army. On 7 February 1966 Lieutenant Gardner's platoon was advancing to relieve a company of the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry, that had been pinned down for several hours by a numerically superior enemy force in the village of My Canh, Vietnam. The enemy occupied a series of strongly fortified bunker positions which were mutually supporting and expertly concealed. Approaches to the position were well covered by an integrated pattern of fires including automatic weapons, machineguns and mortars. Air strikes and artillery placed on the fortifications had little effect. Lieutenant Gardner's platoon was to relieve the friendly company by encircling and destroying the enemy force. Even as it moved to begin the attack, the platoon was under heavy enemy fire. During the attack, the enemy fire intensified. Leading the assault and disregarding his own safety, Lieutenant Gardner charged through a withering hail of fire across an open rice paddy. On reaching the first bunker he destroyed it with a grenade and without hesitation dashed to the second bunker and eliminated it by tossing a grenade inside. Then, crawling swiftly along the dike of a rice paddy, he reached the third bunker. Before he could arm a grenade, the enemy gunner leaped forth, firing at him. Lieutenant Gardner instantly returned the fire and killed the enemy gunner at a distance of six feet. Following the seizure of the main enemy position, he reorganized the platoon to continue the attack. Advancing to the new assault position, the platoon was pinned down by an enemy machinegun emplaced in a fortified bunker. Lieutenant Gardner immediately collected several grenades and charged the enemy position, firing his rifle as he advanced to neutralize the defenders. He dropped a grenade into a bunker and vaulted beyond. As the bunker blew up, he came under fire again. Rolling into a ditch to gain cover, he moved toward the new source of fire. Nearing the position, he leaped from the ditch and advanced with a grenade in one hand and firing his rifle with the other. He was gravely wounded just before he reached the bunker, but with a last valiant effort he staggered forward and destroyed the bunker and its defenders with a grenade. Although he fell dead on the rim of the bunker, his extraordinary actions so inspired the men of his platoon that they resumed the attack and completely routed the enemy. Lieutenant Gardner's conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity, above and beyond the call of duty, were in the highest traditions of the United States Army.



Donation of Congressional Medal of Honor,
Belonging to
Lieutenant James A. Gardner
1943-1966

McAuliffe Hall
Headquarters, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault)
Fort Campbell, Kentucky

14 August 2009



Gardner's honor returns to Fort Campbell by Dave Campbell, Courier staff

A reverent and reflective salute saturated last week's ceremony for 1st Lt. James Alton Gardner as his family gathered with soldiers and friends at Division Headquarters. The reunion was to return the Medal of Honor that commemorates his fatal action in Vietnam.

Though the family returned the medal for display purposes – a rare act of Congress in itself, the reasons soar beyond, to the heart of who Gardner was and still is, to many.



“When he did anything, [it] was to the highest level you could carry it,” sister, Lynda Gardner-Park said, adding that the medal needed to be seen and respected, instead of being placed in a drawer.

In fact the entire Gardner family believes he would have wanted to return the honor to the place where his name is already heavily memorialized.

Ret. Col. John Dorland (1/327 A 65-66) called Gardner a dedicated American, willing to give everything for his country, and one who was unhesitating in his leadership.

Gardner's medal is the first ever to be returned to Fort Campbell, and the unveiling of the display served as a sobering reminder to actions few have ever dared to take.

The honor has only been extended to 246 American service members in the Vietnam War and Gardner remains one of only two recipients in the 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division.

Commanding General of 101st Airborne Division and Fort Campbell Maj. Gen. John Campbell said at the ceremony, Gardner was the “epitome of service to his country and service above his self.”

Lieutenant Gardner had a reputation for putting others above himself, according to his niece, Kim Pruitt, who knew her uncle had been a model for others to follow, but said she saw it more clearly at the ceremony.

“It was an unreal experience,” she said. “Everybody knew him.”

As a kid, Pruitt recalls that her “Uncle Jim,” was always someone she aspired to be like, even wishing at one point to follow the same path he chose.

Both his sister and niece recall an instance prefacing Gardner's courage to come when he saved a friend from drowning as a boy.

Selfless sacrifice

In the North Vietnamese village of My Canh on Feb. 7, 1966, Gardner made bold moves for his Tiger Force platoon, abandoning all expectations he might have previously held for a 23rd birthday.

As every account reads, Gardner gave his life to protect the lives of his fellow soldiers that February day.

Many are familiar with the citation for the medal, but one account amplifies Gardner's courageous last moments that determined his fate, along with the lives of approximately 20 others in his platoon.

Deceased COL David Hackworth's retelling of Gardner's top-tier actions, in the book, “About Face,” presents Gardner as one with a “gentle demeanor,” whose hard-work habits helped

build a “mean, two-platoon Tiger Force,” positioning him as their first commanding officer.

The day of the attack that stopped his life short, Gardner had been briefed by Hackworth about the plan to move in and eliminate a tough North Vietnamese Army force that had a friendly company pinned down, by “at least a dozen machine guns.”

Directed by the sound of their trapped comrades’ fire, Tiger Force “moved like old pros” through waist high grass toward them.

Hackworth writes that his steering of air fire and artillery from the ground gave little relief from what he believed to be among the “most formidable” fighters out of South Vietnam.

Following Hackworth’s orders to flank the enemy and take them out, Gardner and his platoon forded a neck-high river and marched across an open field toward My Canh, where Hackworth recalls being “stunned” by the nerve of Gardner’s approach.

Their cautious movement kept them clear of fire and casualties only briefly.

“But then...with one step they walked into a wall of lead...and they mowed my Tigers down from end to end across that open field,” Hackworth writes.

With enemy fire now pinning down the team of Tigers, the fighting worsened and daylight grew dim. Hackworth yelled across the frequency to Gardner: “Get those positions cleaned out right now...Knock out those guns and I mean now!”

Gardner was said to take those orders as a “personal mission,” and grabbing as many grenades as he could, moved toward the enemy bunkers with “slugs snapping all around him.”

Charging just below the entrance of each bunker, dropping grenades, he took out one after another, until he came upon the third hole.

As he checked to make sure he took the enemy out, fire from another enemy position struck Gardner across the chest four times.

“[Gardner] reportedly turned around and said, ‘It’s the best I can do,’ and then he dropped, KIA.”

“When someone dies for you, as Jim Gardner died for me...it’s the worst of all crosses a combat leader has to bear,” Hackworth wrote.

Legacy living on

If old habits die hard, then today’s Tiger Force platoon is still building on lessons learned from Gardner and others like him.

Some who served with Gardner at the time of his death returned for the recent ceremonies and recall the type of leader he was.



Major General John F. Campbell presents Mrs. Lynda Gardner Park with a memory board prepared by the division for the family.

“He was the kind of leader men wanted to follow,” retired Tiger Force paratrooper John “Dynamite” Hughes said. “Very knowledgeable of his surroundings, he always knew what was going on.”

Charlie Mussellwhite, retired CW4 (1/327 HHC 64-66), said Jim lobbied him to talk to Hackworth about making him the platoon leader.

“We built him up to Hackworth like [he was] Ali,” Mussellwhite said, laughing along with Hughes who recalled “Jim” to be in very good mental and physical condition to accomplish what he did.

Losses in Iraq from their own platoon, remind Tiger Force specialists Brian Carleton and Nick Dechene what it means to have Gardner’s level of devotion to the job.

“It means everything,” Carleton said, “when you give everything without regard to yourself.”

This week the medal and other memorabilia were brought out for a separate ceremony, in which the Vietnam Veterans Conference Room was dedicated and named in his honor, like Gardner Hills.

The medal was presented to Gardner’s family on Oct. 19, 1967, and was the first awarded to any soldier of the 101st Airborne Division during the Vietnam War era.

Numerous memorials from Fort Benning, Ga. to Washington D.C. reflect the impact of Gardner’s name and they include a conference room in the Pentagon and National Guard Armory in his hometown of Dyersburg, Tenn.

Remaining in Division Headquarters is the original medal in addition to the display model being kept in the Vietnam Veterans Conference Room, also newly dedicated to Gardner in his brigade’s headquarters.

Asked how she believes her brother would respond if he were still alive, Park believes he was watching down, giving a thumbs up, saying she finally did something right.

Editor's Notes: About underlined – correct spelling of names.

**Remarks by Tim Swain at
MOH Ceremony of JAG
at Fort Campbell on
Friday, 14 AUG 2009 @ 10:30AM**

Major General
Campbell, Ladies,
Distinguished
Guests, Friends of
1LT James A.
Gardner.....

You are the 1st
Brigade.....

Words of Stonewall
Jackson to his troops
before battle.....

For the 30 months
period from JULY
1965 until JAN
1968- the famed
101st Airborne
Division was
represented in
combat in Vietnam
by its 1st Brigade....



Tim Swain, HHC S-2 65 speaks to those gathered for the Medal of Honor Ceremony about his fellow soldier 1LT James A. Gardner.

On the 1st Brigade's shoulders rested the honor, courage, skills, results and reputation earned by the legendary 101st Airborne Division in World War II, a mere 20 or so years before.

Cognizant of this responsibility was my friend and comrade with whom I was honored and privileged to serve along Route 19 in the Central Highlands of Vietnam, 1st Lieutenant James Alton Gardner.

1st LT Gardner was a special person, a special warrior of the 101st Airborne.

While only 22 years of age, this young man from Tennessee who has an athletic field named after him at Fort Benning and just a stone's throw from a similar field there named after another famed Tennessean, Alvin York.

On that fateful day, 7 FEB 1966, serving in close combat with the enemy with LT Gardner were: Beldon; Chaisson; "Dynamite" Hughes; Martin; Korman; Graves; Murphy; Bowers; Musselwhite; Benjamin and other American paratroopers, each an American hero;

LT Gardner was recognized as the type of soldier that had the talents and abilities to lead his troops both in and out of battle by those of higher rank including such fine fellow leaders and superior officers as Timothy, Rogers, Hackworth, Johnson, Heiser, Dexter, Hicks, Hanson, Lunde to name a few, there again being many others;

One of whom described LT Gardner as follows:

"He was most recently the Recon Platoon Leader, became the first Tiger Commanding Officer.

He was a hard-working, redheaded, Dyersburg, Tennessee-born Irishman,

A natural leader whose gentle demeanor belied the cocky, profane Tigers that he helped create....."

This superior officer went on to observe:

"Gardner was my kind of man.

He had no trouble in getting volunteers for the new outfit either, and soon he'd organized and begun to train his very mean two-platoon Tiger Force."

.....And those of equal rank holding LT Gardner in the highest regard include...Graves, Foley, O'Bryan, Dorland, Perry, Howard, Hudson, Olyphant, Willis, Doc Benjamin, Dubbs, Korman, Murphy, Bowers, and, of course, many others....

And the NCOs, with whom the U.S. Army could not function, who supported LT Gardner,

Included but surely were not limited to, Beldon, Chaisson, Smith, Musselwhite, Ortega, Willard, Hughes, Martin, Nunnely, and a host of others.....

LT Gardner's feats of courage and heroism under fire in order to protect his paratroopers and accomplish the mission....are set forth in his Medal of Honor Citation.....

We wish to thank the 101st Airborne (Air Assault) for making this ceremony happen... and especially Ivan Worrell...John O'Brien...Dan Peterson...Pat Graves... Major Timothy Lindsay and LT Weed.....for making sure everything got done skillfully, in a quality manner and on a timely basis.....

It is appreciated by all of LT Gardner's friends, and especially his family whom I would like to introduce.....

Lynda Gardner Park, her daughter, Kimberly Park Pruitt, Joella Gardner McManus

God Bless 1LT James A. Gardner, his family, the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) and the United States of America.

THANK YOU.

[Postscript: Following the ceremony, Janie Putnam, Dyersburg, Tennessee, approached and introduced herself to Tim Swain. She told how she was Jim's 4-H Advisor the whole time that Jim was growing up in Dyersburg. She told of Jim's early leadership abilities in that he was always elected president of his class. She told of one time when she was experiencing some difficulty in rounding of the energetic boys after swimming in a lake. Out a ways in the lake she could observe Jim sheparding and staying with a friend who had an affliction that reduced his swimming abilities. Jim accompanied the young boy safely to shore, and his 4-H Advisor believes that but for Jim's actions, his friend would not have been able to return to shore.]



Following the unveiling of the Medal of Honor display are (L to R) Mrs. Lynda Gardner Park (sister of 1LT James A. Gardner); Major General John F. Campbell, Commanding General of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) and Fort Campbell, Kentucky; COL Andrew P. Poppas, Commanding Officer 1st Brigade Combat Team (327th Infantry Regiment), 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) and Tim Swain, HHC S-2 65.



The 1LT James A. Gardner Medal of Honor display case now on public exhibit in McAuliffe Hall, Headquarters, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) at Fort Campbell, Kentucky.



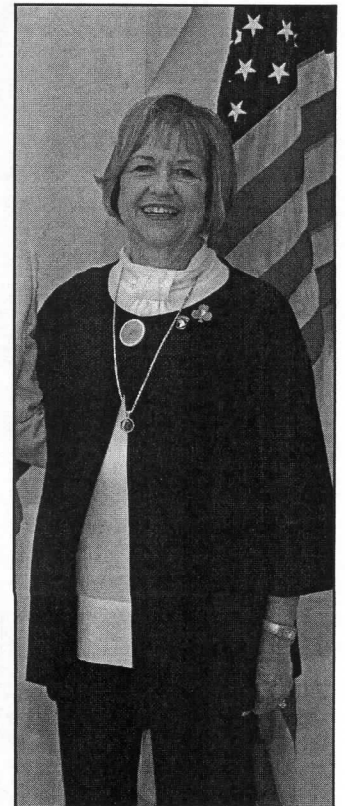
The paver that honors 1LT James A. Gardner near the 101st Airborne Division Monument that stands in front of Division Headquarters.

1ST/LT JAMES ALTON GARDNER MEDAL OF HONOR POSTHUMOUSLY

Rank and organization: First Lieutenant, U.S. Army, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. Place and date: My Canh, Vietnam, 7 February 1966. Entered service at: Memphis, Tenn. Born: 7 February 1943, Dyersburg, Tenn.

Jim's Medal of Honor Citation reflects how, with a armful of grenades and his M-16 rifle, he set off to silence the enemy of his unit, and succeeded in knocking out five (5) separate enemy bunkers and killing the occupants, before being killed by small arms fire. His courage and heroism permitted a beleaguered unit to be relieved and the objective taken.

In honor of 1st/Lt. James A. Gardner's conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in the face of extreme danger to the paratroopers in his command, his Medal of Honor is prominently displayed at the Headquarters, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), Fort Campbell, Kentucky, he has been inducted into the United States Army Ranger Hall of Fame, the Officers Candidate School's Hall of Fame and an athletic field named in his honor, at Fort Benning, Georgia, Home of the United States Army Infantry Center.



Joella McManus widow of 1LT James A. Gardner.





Vets finally receive welcome home

by Nondice Powell, Courier staff

Published: Thursday, August 20, 2009 5:12 PM CDT

The ceremonies seemed like any other welcome home ceremony at Fort Campbell's Hangar 3 at first glance Sunday. Families, friends and members of the Fort Campbell community filled the bleachers waiting for the hangar doors to open and for the formation to enter.

Three times the sequence repeated itself. Three times the hangar filled with the thunderous welcome home cheers. The members of these formations though were not currently serving with the 101st Airborne Division. They were all Vietnam veterans from every branch of service and across the U.S. More than 1,400 veterans took part in the ceremonies many referred to as long overdue.

"It's the greatest thing that's ever happened to me except when I got married to [Betty] 31 years ago," said Bobby House, through tears. "It's way over due and we deserve it – we deserve it."

House served with the 199th Light Infantry Brigade and with the 1st Cavalry Division while in Vietnam. He was overcome with emotion during part of the ceremony and leaned over to

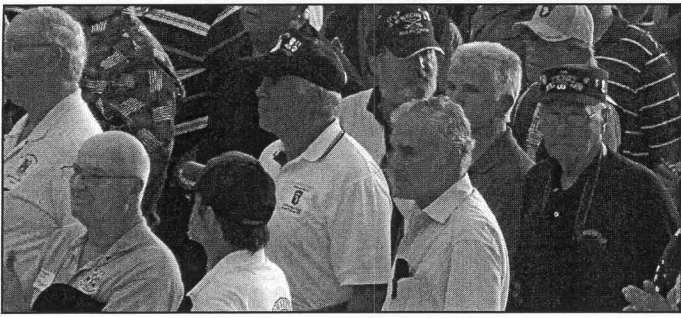
hug his friend and fellow Vietnam veteran Earl Deming. House had trouble finding the right words to describe just how the ceremony made him feel.

"I can't tell you how much I appreciate this," said House to a current Screaming Eagle who let House know he appreciates his service. "There ain't no way to tell how I feel inside. There ain't no way."

House's friend, Deming served as a medic in Vietnam with the 44th Medical Brigade, 45th Dustoff Long Binh and with the Military Assistance Command, Vietnam Team 43 during two tours in Vietnam. As a member of a dustoff crew, he put his own life in danger time and time again in their attempts to tend to the wounded. The dustoff helicopters went unarmed into hot landing zones to bring back wounded service members. Deming earned a Silver Star for his actions as a dustoff medic. "I went into a hot [landing zone]," said Deming. "I got off the aircraft and carried five guys back to my aircraft. My crew chief and I were put in for the Medal of Honor. They downgraded it to this and upgraded the pilots to this."



One of three groups of Viet Nam veterans enter hangar three to be welcomed home by the Commanding General of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) and Fort Campbell, Major General John F. Campbell and all troopers at Fort Campbell.



Two faces in the crowd recognized by your editor are Douglas N. Field, 2/327 B 4/66-12/67, in the white golf shirt (center) and LTC(R) Louis M. McDonald, 2/327 B 5/66-10/66, in the dark golf shirt and hat (right).

Prior to the ending of their ceremony, House presented a framed poem written by his son, Daniel, to Maj. Gen. John F. Campbell. Daniel's poem was about his reactions and feelings to the Vietnam War. It was something he wanted the general to have.

"Daniel wrote a [poem] about the vets in '07," said House. "It's a sad story from a very young man about the Vietnam War."

One service member stood out during a ceremony due to his young age. He is a Bastogne soldier born long after the Vietnam War. As the current guidon bearer for Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment, Pvt. Garrett Wilson carried a unique guidon into the hangar.

"We were glad to have one of the new Charlie people bring our old colors in here," said Steve Stevenson. "It's a great link between the old and new."

Stevenson served with the unit in Vietnam. The guidon carried by Wilson was kept and maintained by members of C Co. over the last 42 years. It is the same guidon the unit had at the Battle of Hue and A Shau Valley.



"We were going to get a chance to come to our welcome home and fly the guidon for Charlie 1-327," said Stevenson. "I loved it."

Stevenson was honored to take part in a welcome home ceremony. He agreed with Campbell's remarks, which referred to the ceremonies as long overdue.

"I made it through the National Anthem without breaking up, which has been real hard over the last 40 years," said Stevenson. "It means a lot to have people come and thank all the Vietnam veterans."

Wilson enjoyed the opportunity to take part in the ceremony with those who served before him.

"I thought it was a great thing for the veterans," said Wilson. "It must have been hard for them to come home without a good welcome home. It's a good thing."

Prior to releasing each formation to the welcoming arms of family, friends and members of the community, Campbell spoke to everyone in attendance. His remarks acknowledged the sacrifices made by all, including those who have not returned, and thanked the service members for the lessons that helped set today's service members up for success. He also explained how the Fort Campbell community wanted to offer the same welcome home those returning to the installation currently receive.

"We wanted to make sure that not another day goes by where you are not properly welcomed back to the United States for a job well done," said Campbell. "Today's service members and their families stand on the shoulders of your legacy and contributions each of you made while serving our nation in Vietnam."

Editor's Note: All photos of the welcome home ceremony were taken by Arline and Douglas N. Field, 2/327 B 4/66-12/67.

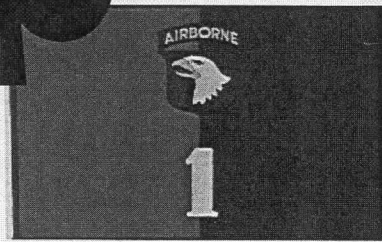
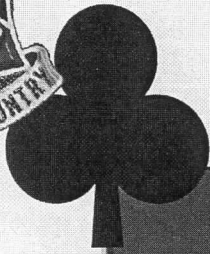
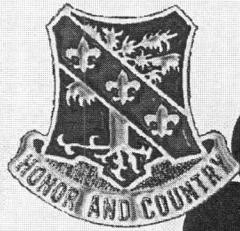


Major General John Campbell officially welcomes the hangar full of Viet Nam veterans home.



THE BASTOGNE BRIGADE

101st Airborne Division (Air Assault)



Honors the New Distinguished Members Of The 327th Infantry Regiment

18 August 2009
Fort Campbell, Kentucky

Bastogne Veterans Offer Sage Advice to Next Generation

Story and photos by
Sgt. Rick Rzepka
Bastogne Public Affairs

The two young soldiers approached the grizzled Sergeant Major with caution as he motioned for them to come over. "Do you have any advice for us Sergeant Major?" asked the Private First Class. "Yeah I do," said Command Sgt. Maj. (Ret.) Joseph Bossi, the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division, Honorary Command Sergeant Major. "Make sure every guy in your squad can do your job," he said in a somber tone. "And make sure everyone knows how to handle the machine gun!" Soldiers, family members and veterans of the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (AASLT) gathered Tues. Aug. 18 to celebrate "Bastogne Veterans Day." Scores of Bastogne warriors, past and present were on hand to induct seven new Distinguished Members of the Regiment into the ranks of the 327th Infantry Regiment's elite warfighters. Col. Arthur A. Kandarian, Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Wright, Maj. Robert Hudson, Staff Sgt. Bruce Frederick, Command Sgt. Maj. Brian Stall, Spc. Edward Berry and Petra Wenstedt-Pulles were inducted as DMOR, while Mr. Art Helf and Mr. Thomas Miller were made Honorary Members of the Regiment. "Today,

as we induct these seven Bastogne brigade warriors into the ranks of men with names like Beckwith, Hackworth, Gertsch and Gardner, we do so keeping in mind the great and noble heritage of this proud regiment," said Col. Andrew Poppas, 1st BCT Commander. Poppas reminded his formation that ordinary soldiers often do extraordinary things and that he knows that future DMOR are standing in the ranks of today's Bastogne soldiers. "As I look out into this formation of present day Bastogne soldiers, I can't help but wonder, which of your names will be hammered into the pages of 327th history," he said. Poppas also encouraged Bastogne soldiers to "tap into the wisdom of those who came before you" during the Week of the Eagles celebration, which saw thousands of Screaming Eagle veterans return to Fort Campbell. "They have done what you are doing and they have been where you are going," he said.



Honorary Colonel of the Regiment LTC(R) Louis M. McDonald, 2/327 B 5/66-10/66, receives the 327 Infantry Regiment Colors as a symbol of his new responsibilities.



Clarissa "TC" Freeman who serves as the Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army for Kentucky presents his commission as Honorary Colonel of the 327th Infantry Regiment to LTC(R) Louis M. McDonald, 2/327 B 5/66-10/66. Others shown (L to R) are 1st BCT CSM, Kevin Benson; 1st BCT CO, COL Andrew P. Poppas; T. C. Freeman; Louis McDonald and Honorary Command Sergeant Major of the 327th Regiment, CSM(R) Joseph M. Bossi, 2/327 HHC 6/66-7/67.



Robert C. Hudson, 2/327 C&HHC 6/65-7/66, is made a Distinguished Member of the 327th Infantry Regiment. Those participating in the ceremony are (L to R) 1st BCT CSM, Kevin Benson; 1st BCT CO, COL Andrew P. Poppas; Robert C. Hudson and his wife Barbara; Honorary Colonel of the Regiment LTC(R) Louis M. McDonald, 2/327 B 5/66-10/66 and Honorary Command Sergeant Major of the Regiment, CSM(R) Joseph M. Bossi, 2/327 HHC 6/66-7/67.



Before the DMOR formation the following posed for a picture (L to R): Ben Willis, unit & dates?; Patrick H. Graves Jr., 1/327 B 7/65 - ?; Brevan Olyphant; CW4(R) Charlie M. Musselwhite, 1/327 HHC 64-66 ELT; COL(R) John Dorland, 1/327 A 65-66; Michael "Mickey" O'Brien; and John L. "Dynamite" Hughes, USA (R), 1/327 HQ T.F. 6/65-6/66.



(L to R) Lynda Park, sister of 1LT James Gardner and her friend from Dyersburg, Tennessee, Allane Dickerson pose with the Medal of Honor display case to be exhibited in the First Brigade Conference Room that has been renamed to honor 1LT Gardner.



12th Biennial Reunion

Omaha, Nebraska October 6-9, 2010

This announcement is for planning purposes.
 Details later. Hosted by Terry R. Zahn, SPT BN HQ E1t 7/65-5/66.

See Inside Front Cover

Static

Your Airborne



Line

"Lifeline"

AWARDS 2009



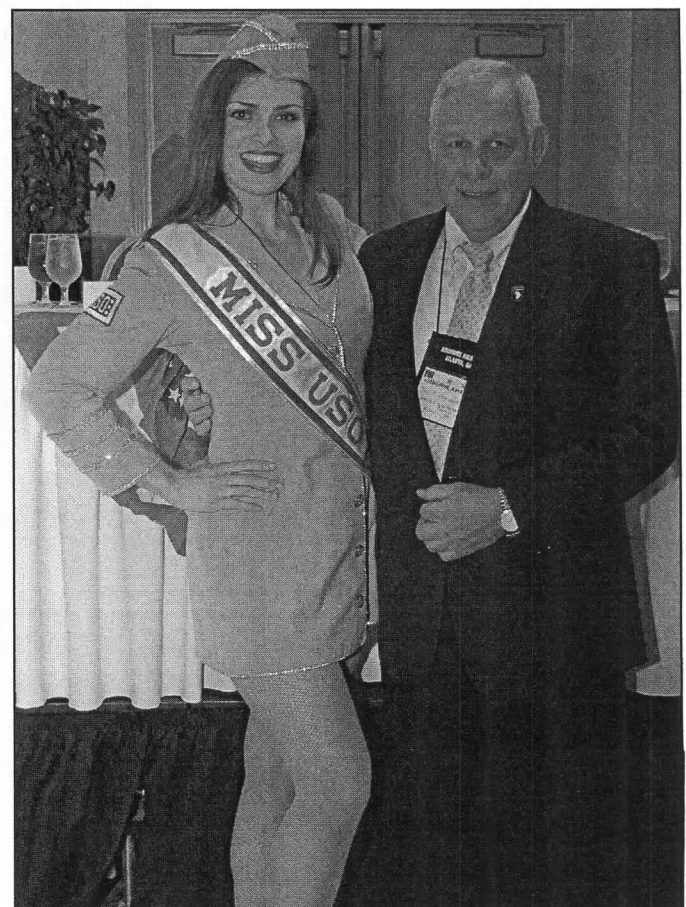
First Brigade (Separate), 101st Airborne Division, Man of the Year, CSM(R) Harvey P. Appleman, 2/327 HQ 2/67-3/68, accepts his Man of the Year plaque from Robert Timian, Chairman Atlanta All Airborne Chapter, 82nd Airborne Division Association at the Static Line Airborne Awards Banquet.



101st Airborne Division Man of the Year, Joe R. Alexander, 3/506 A 10/67-10/68 accepts his Man of the Year plaque from Robert Timian, Chairman Atlanta All Airborne Chapter, 82nd Airborne Division Association at the Static Line Airborne Awards Banquet.



ISG(R) Reynold A. Martinez, 1/327 A 5/64-3/66, and his wife Gertraud at the Static Line Airborne Awards Banquet.



Joe R. Alexander, 3/506 A 10/67-10/68 poses with Miss USO of 2009, Heidi Marie Ferren, at the Static Line Airborne Awards Banquet.





Willie W. Snow, 2/502 HHC 4/66-4/67, 101st Airborne Division, receives his recognition plaque as 75th Ranger Regiment Man of the Year from Robert Timian, Chairman Atlanta All Airborne Chapter, 82nd Airborne Division Association at the Static Line Airborne Awards Banquet.



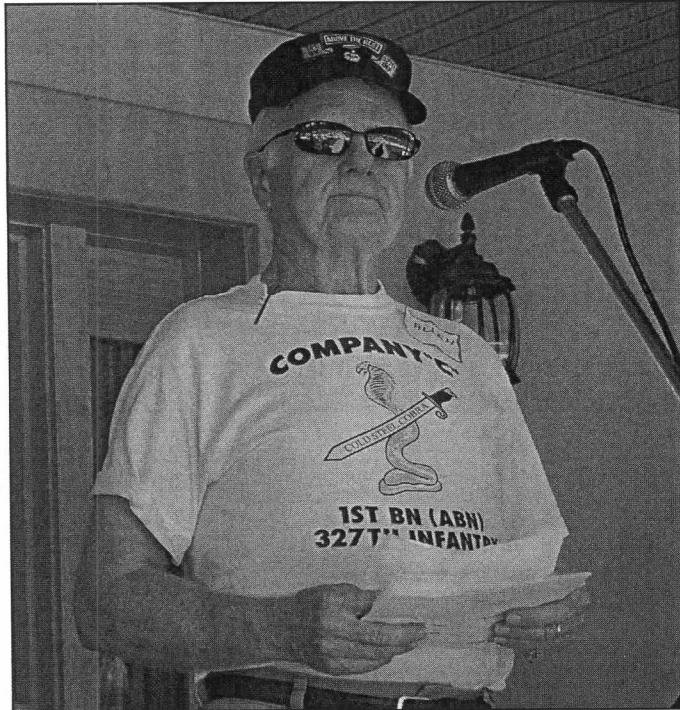
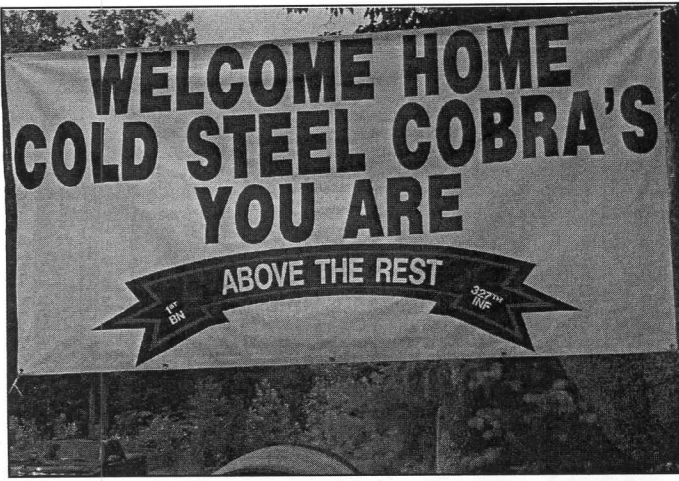
Sam Bass, Executive Secretary and Treasurer of the 101st Airborne Division Association is pressed into service to present the 101st AIRBORNE DIVISION (AIR ASSAULT) UPDATE BRIEFING at the Static Line Airborne Awards Festival.



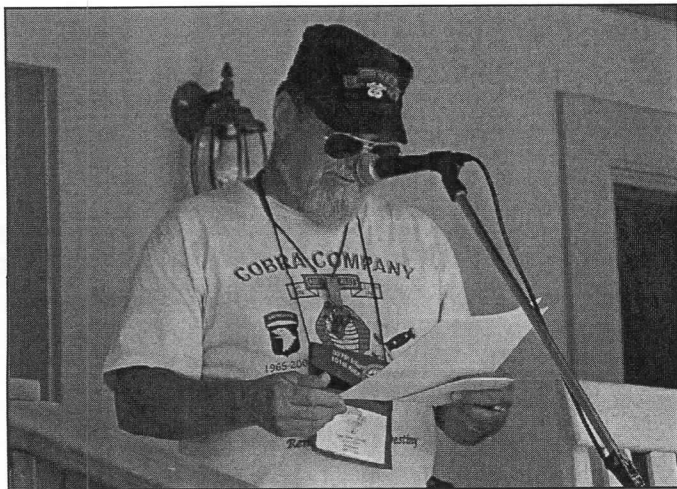
Most of the First Brigade (Separate) veterans who attended the 2009 Static Line Airborne Awards Festival after the Awards Banquet are (L to R) Millard R. Ball, HHC 7/327 65-66; CSM(R) Joseph M. Bossi, 2/327 HHC 6/66-7/67; First Brigade (Separate), 101st Airborne Division, Man of the Year, CSM(R) Harvey P. Appleman, 2/327 HQ 2/67-3/68; 75th Ranger Regiment Man of the Year, Willie W. Snow, 2/502 HHC 4/66-4/67 and ISG(R) Reynold A. Martinez, 1/327 A 5/64-3/66.

Editor's Note: See Static Line contact information on page 36

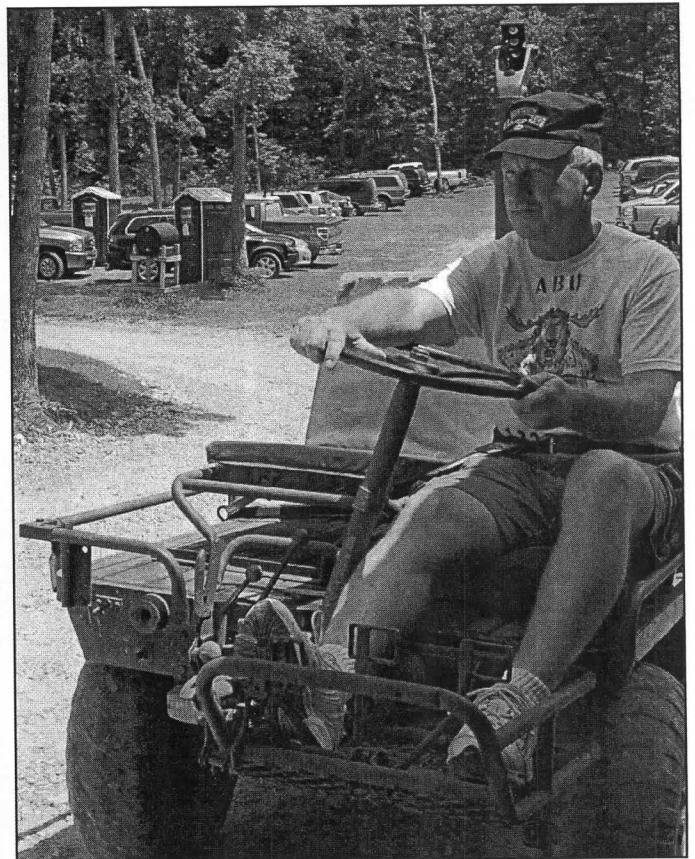




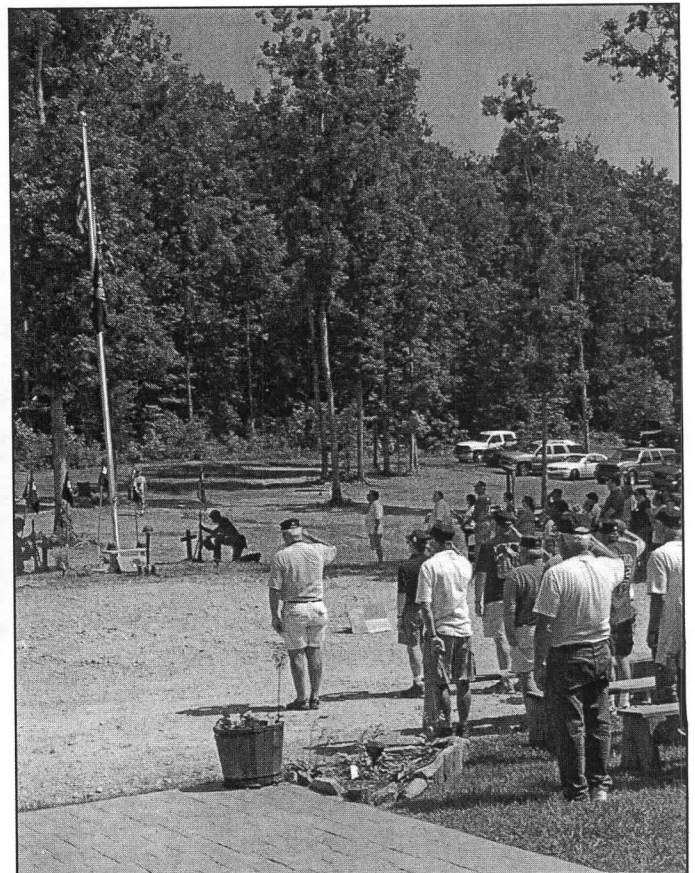
LTC(R) Allen C. De Graw, 11327 CO C 7165-7166 ELT, C Company Commander when the First Brigade (S) deployed to Viet Nam, opens the program at Cobra Lake.



Kenneth F. Ihle, 11327 C 7165-7166, who along with his wife Angela host the annual Cobra Lake Reunion, takes care of some details at the meeting.

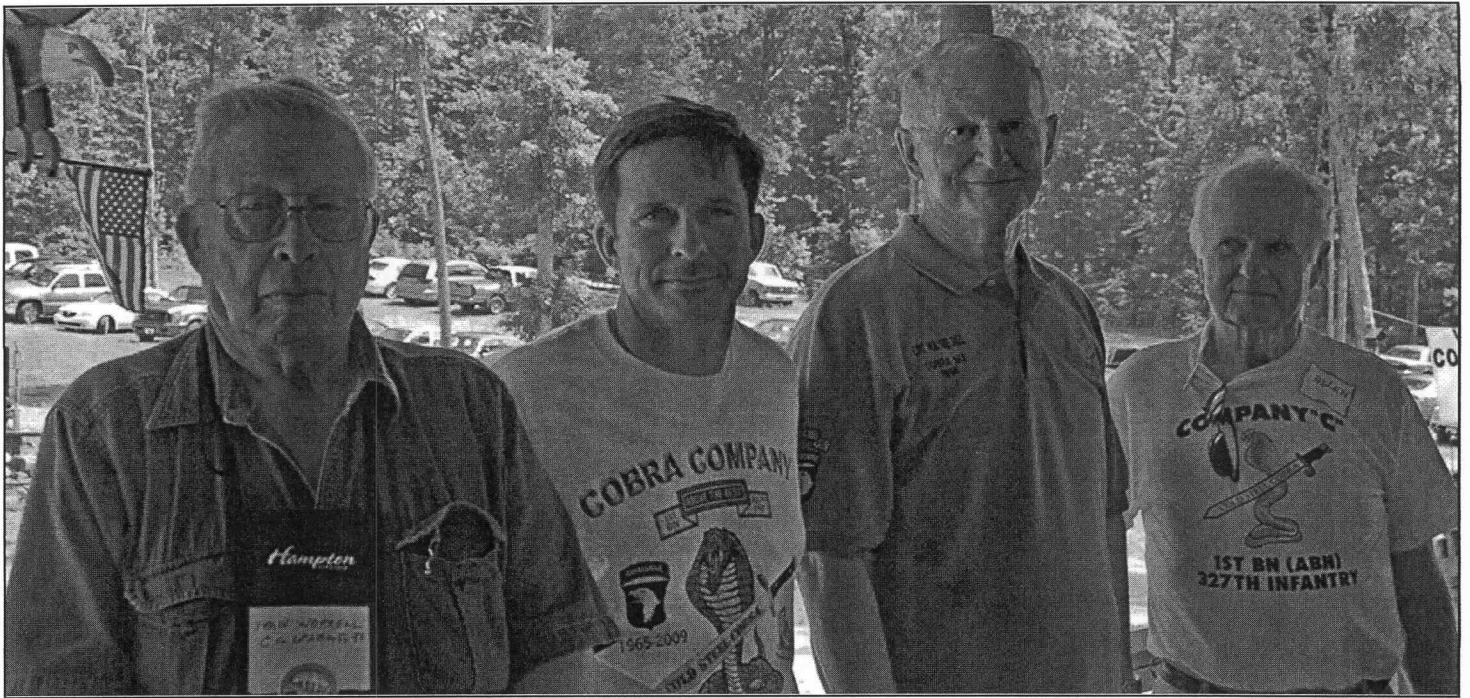


Claude A. Frisbie, 11327 A 7166-2168, drives the Mechanical Mule brought to Cobra Lake by owner Fred Behrens.

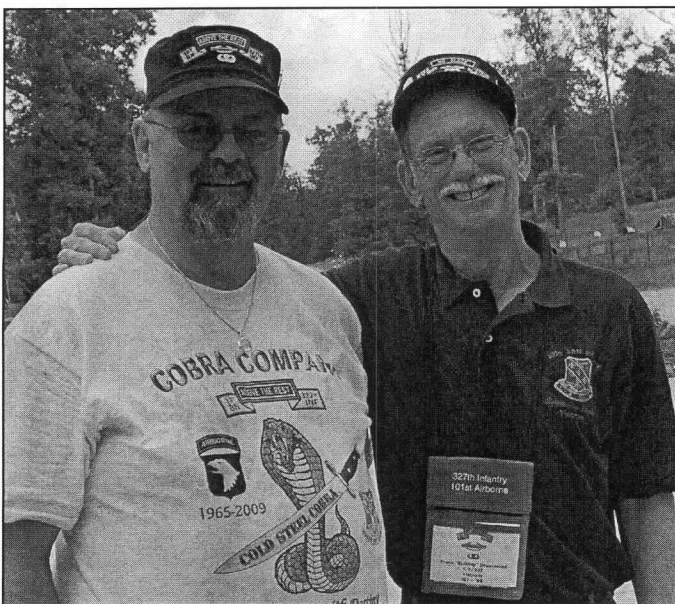


Those attending honor fallen comrades as the bugler plays taps.

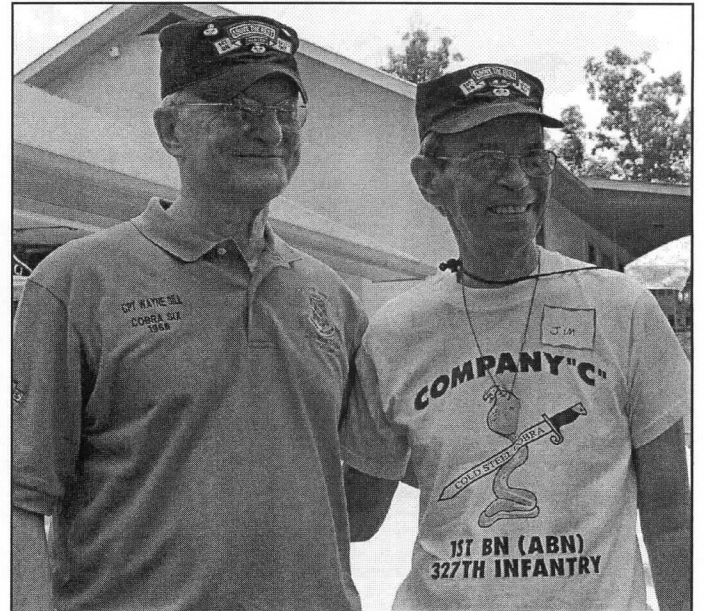




Past and present Company Commanders of C Company 11327 posed for a picture at the Cobra Lake reunion. They are (L to R) Ivan Worrell (1956 – 57 when it was 1st Airborne Battle Group 327th); Captain Thomas Whitfield, the present Company Commander; COL(R) E. Wayne Dill, 11327 A & C 3/66-3/67 and LTC(R) Allen C. De Graw, 11327 CO C 7/65-7/66 ELT, who was Company Commander when the Brigade deployed to Viet Nam.



David J. Markham, 11327 C 10/66-10/67, and Frank M. "Bulldog" Drummond, 21327 C 5/67-12/68, pose for a picture before the annual meeting.



COL(R) E. Wayne Dill, 11327 A & C 3/66-3/67, and James R. Van Lone, 11327 C 7/65-7/66.



THE BUZZ, Monroe County, Tennessee, March 30, 2009

"A veteran is someone who, at one point in his life, wrote a blank check made payable to his country for an amount of 'up to and including my life.' That is Honor, and there are way too many people who no longer understand it."

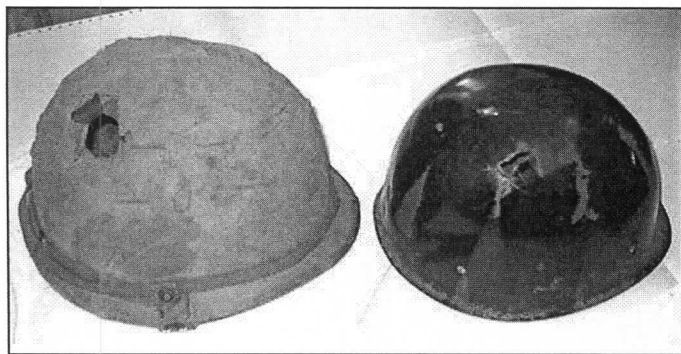
From: Dale Burkman, 2/327 A 3/67-10/67
e20lrp@yahoo.com
Subject: Re: Battle of Que Son Valley

These pictures were sent to you at the request of Herb Williams (COL(R) Herbert D. Williams III, 2/327 A&B 7/67-6/68). I saw him at the Week of the Eagles at Fort Campbell in September. He told me that he had written an article about Que Son Valley.

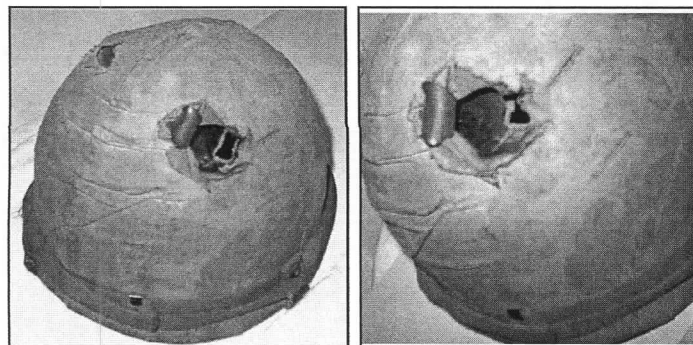
I served with A Co 2/327 from Mar 67 through Oct 67. I then transferred to a LRRP Company.

My home address while I was in Nam was 1915 "Q" Avenue, New Castle IN 47362. My home address now is 4864 East 900 North, Rushville IN 46173.

Editor's Note: From page 11 of the July 09 issue of The FIRST SCREAMING EAGLES in Viet Nam. "Sometime during that contact one of the men in the 2nd Squad, SGT Dale Burkman, narrowly escaped serious injury from an enemy bullet that hit his helmet and ricocheted inside it."



This photo shows the hole the enemy bullet made in the helmet and the liner. The art on the helmet cover was 101st on the back and INDIANA on one side.



Additional angles to show the hole made by the enemy bullet that penetrated to the inside and ricocheted.

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE
1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division
REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
APO San Francisco 96347

Rel. No. 375

Rel. No. 9-23

MACOI
By PFC Luis Callender
"AN UNBEATABLE TEAM"

TUY HOA, VIETNAM (101ST -IO) – Take one unit of the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, add a detachment from both the United States and Vietnamese Navies, mix in one unit of the Vietnamese Popular Forces and another of Regular Forces, and out comes the final product – an unbeatable team for a smooth and successful amphibious operation.

Boarding motorized junks and sailing North up the Tuy Hoa coastline by starlight, A Troop, 2d Squadron, 17th Cavalry, waded into their assigned blocking force position.

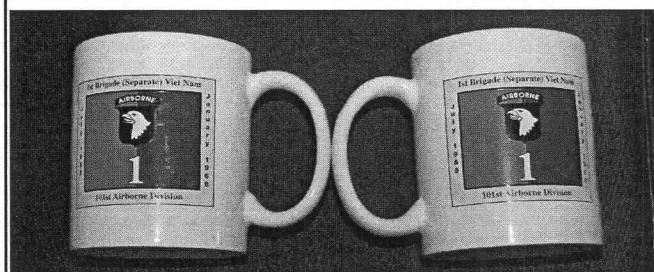
At the same time the 101st Cavalrymen were moving, the Vietnamese Navy, advised by Lieutenant Paul P. Aguilino, of North Redington Beach, Florida, and Lieutenant (jg) David M. Ellis, of La Cross, Wisconsin, both of Coastal Advisor Group 24, U. S. Navy sailed into position offshore ready to support the "Screaming Eagles" with 50 caliber machine gun fire and naval gunfire.

At dawn, with the paratroopers in position and the Vietnamese Navy watchfully waiting offshore, Regular and Popular Forces of the Vietnamese Army began their south to north sweep, with two Texans, Captain Anton W. Boraski, of Coppers Cove and 1st Lieutenant Albert U. Howe, of Waco, acting as advisors.

The operation came off like clockwork and at one point encountered a Viet Cong ambush. A few exchanges of gunfire ensued, but the Viet Cong decided it was better to switch to another base of operation rather than fight.

All concerned expressed satisfaction with the amphibious operation, and once again proved the success of Joint Allied Operations.

NEW ITEM



This white ceramic 11 ounce mug has the First Brigade (S) logo on two sides. \$13.00 + \$4.95 shipping through the U. S. Postal Service a total of \$17.95.

See order form on page 34.

VC Leads U.S. Troops to Hospital

CHU LAI, Vietnam (10) — A discontented Viet Cong surrendered to paratroopers of the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne, 18 miles west of here and led them to an NVA hospital complex resulting in the capture of 12 patients.

The insurgent presented a 'Chieu Hoi' pass and told of poor morale and dissatisfaction among enemy troops. Further questioning revealed he was a cook at the hospital. He then led B Co. of the 2nd Bn. (Abn), 502nd Inf., to the complex atop a jungle-covered mountain.

Found were an operating room with tables, fresh pools of blood on the dirt floors and piles of new and used bandages. Communist Chinese and Russian medical supplies were found.

The complex consisted of 10 large huts with underground tunnels. Eight of the structures were hospital wards capable of quartering 20 persons each. One served as the operating room, another as the dining hall. Bloodstained sheets lay crumpled on the operating room floor. Blood trails led from the tables to the jungle.

Sgt. Frederick Davenport, Buffalo, N.Y., led a platoon in search of other enemy wounded.

"We were about 60 yards from the hospital when we heard something moving in a bush," Davenport said. "We found six enemy wounded trying to crawl away."

The paratroopers carried the wounded back to one of the

wards where a medic treated and prepared them for evacuation to the 2nd Surgical Hospital here.

The six enemy had been wounded by artillery and Air Force jets in contacts a week earlier.

Subsequent questioning identified one as a supply sergeant from the 1st Bn., 21st NGA Regt. The others were members of the 2nd Bn., 1st Viet Cong Regt., detailed for food production teams for the 2nd NVA Div.

The next day patrols were dispatched again. One NVA gave up to paratroopers and broadcasted surrender appeals to his comrades.

"Our squad was moving down a well-used trail when a khaki-clad NVA crawled towards us

from the bushes," said Pfc. James Hall, Waco, Tex.

Sgt. Duan Dinh Hoan, an Army of Vietnam interpreter, was sent to the area to question the enemy soldier.

"He will show us where others are hiding," Hoan told Capt. Thomas Mercer, Flushing, Mich., the company commander.

Four more wounded enemy were pulled out of nearby spider holes.

The five enemy — three NVA and two VC — were carried back to the hospital where they were treated.

Next morning another NVA patient walked into the complex, his hands clasped behind his neck.

College jersey number retired for Smithfield man

"10" was a lucky number for Bill Cook of Smithfield.

The former Northwestern State University baseball player had his jersey number retired Feb. 7 during the annual Demon Baseball Opening Day Banquet.

Cook is part of a rarified group — being one of only two in the Division 1A University's 120-year history to have a number retired.

The Demon pitcher played from 1956-59, throwing 37 games and winning 29 — a school record that still stands 50 years later.

As three-time All-Gulf State Conference pitcher, Cook led the nation in wins in 1957, earning MVP honors. Nicknamed the team's "Iron Man" by the newspaper, Cook took victories in two doubleheaders during the 1957 season, three of them shutouts. His career ERA was 1.91 with an average of seven strikeouts per game.

In three seasons, he walked only 20 batters.

Cook also played semi-pro for the Homer Oilers, Big Eight Conference, posting an 8-4 record. He had offers



Former minor league baseball player Bill Cook and his wife Mary Ellen with his former jersey.

from the Giants, Tigers, Kansas City, Yankees and the St. Louis Cardinals.

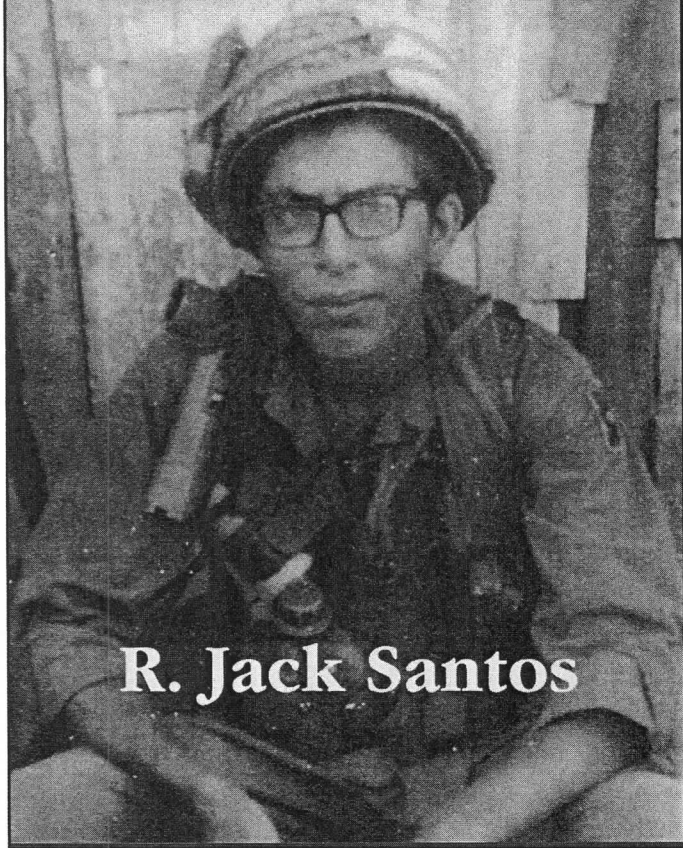
In an effort to influence Cook to sign with their club, the Cardinals paid for his honeymoon with his bride Mary Ellen in St. Louis.

Despite the offers, the righthander decided to remain in college and earn his degree.

It's a decision Cook hasn't regretted (well maybe just a little).

Editor's Note: MAJ(R) Billie R. Cook, SPT BN 65-66, 208 James Landing Cir., Smithfield, VA 23430-2316 sent this article.

Reflections of a Vietnam Vet



R. Jack Santos

REFLECTIONS OF A VIETNAM VET

by R. Jack Santos
ISBN 978-1-4251-6574-1

Available online: \$15.95
books.trafford.com/09-0401

REFLECTIONS by R. Jack Santos, 2/17 CAV A Troop 1/66-12/66, is a book of 89 poems based on his tour with the First Brigade (S) in Viet Nam. His poetry is a revealing study of the emotions, observations and understandings of the war as it related to him and his fellow troopers. The poems are historical insights into the trials and tribulations of fighting in the jungles and serving with men who accomplished their missions. I would recommend this book for all who served in Viet Nam and all others who have an interest in that war. MAJ(R) Ivan Worrell, INFO OFF 5/66-5/67.



THE MEDEVAC

by R. Jack Santos

Medevac in the sky, the jungle a heavy green
Thick, thick jungle, no one could be seen
Medevac Pilot called for smoke
"Goofy grape" caused me to choke

The Medevac came in hot and fast
VC tracers arching past
I couldn't help but stare
How did the 'chopper stay in the air

Wounded and dead pushed inside
No time for a last goodbye, no time to cry
A wave to the pilot, he was ready to go
I thought he pulled out moving too slow

The pilot called back, he was taking fire
He gave it more power struggling to get higher
I remember the Red Cross on the door
Wounded and dead piled on the floor

My friends were leaving Vietnam
Thanks to one hellofa brave man
The Medevac Pilot was a hero to the GI
He helped some to live that might have died

Following is a list of those who are in The FIRST SCREAMING in VIET NAM database and are mentioned in The SCREAMING EAGLE published December 13, 1967 and reproduced in the center fold of this magazine.

Page 1; Ly Tra Hamlet Reborn: Wayne J. Prokup, HQ&HQ 1st Bde 5/67-3/68. 'Wheeler' passes 1,000 Kill Mark: CSM(R) Steve Slocum*, 2/327 C 6/67-6/68.

Page 2; Hawks Bolster Line Companies: George Fallon, 2/327 HHC 1/67-1/68 and John T. McKnight*, 2/327 HQ 4/67-12/68. NCO Outslugs Enemy Soldier: Jack A. Rogers*, 2/502 A 7/67-7/68. 8 Commanders Given 'Colors': Howard H.(Dan) Danford, 2/502 5/67-5/68; Ralph Puckett*, 2/502 CO 7/67-3/68; BG(R) Julius F. Johnson*, 1/327 A 6/67-6/68; LTC(R) Ed (Bear) Burch (1/327 B 6/67-6/68) died 12/27/2000; Lyndol L. Cook*, 2/327 A 8/67-7/68; LTG(R) John E. Miller, 2/327 B 5/67-2/68; LTG(R) Charley Otstott, 2/502 A & HHC 6/67-6/68; and Thomas Mercer*, 2/502 B 67-68.

Page 3; Close Call (photo); James L. Russell*, 1/327 C 67-68. Medic Treats Muddy Troopers: LTC(R) Ray Millard*, 2/327 CO B 1/67-1/68.

Page 4; Tigers Fend Off Enemy's Attack: Wyman Helms*, 1/327 HHQ TF 5/67-5/68 and Ventura Leak*, 1/327 T.F. 8/67-1/68. Joins 1st Cav; BG(R) Oscar E. Davis*, HHC 3/67-8/67. Refreshments: Thomas A. Hoesch, 2/327 A 4/67-4/68.

* not subscriber



People Help Themselves



Ly Tra Hamlet Reborn

By SP4 Dan Stroebel
LY TRA — This hamlet north of Chu Lai was a primitive sanctuary for Vietnamese who had been displaced by war. They had no school. Roads were merely rutted trails. Ancient wells dried and collected dust.

All this has now changed because the civil affairs staff of the 101st Airborne learned of their plight and decided to do something about it.

"About three months ago, I took 400 refugees to Ly Tra," recalled Capt. Peter Reinhart, Hazelton, Pa., assistant brigade civil affairs officer. "At that time I became critically aware of the hamlet's problems."

Before a plan of action could be developed, the paratroopers left the Chu Lai area for short period. Reinhart, while working on other projects, remembered Ly Tra and planned.

When the Screaming Eagles returned to Chu Lai to begin Operation Wheeler, Reinhart was ready.

ROADS BUILT

"Because of limited air transportation, we decided to restrict our civic action program in Quang Tin Province to an area we could reach by vehicle," said Reinhart. "This made Ly Tra ideal for our self-help program."

MEDCAPS Regularly

Maj. Wayne J. Prokup, brigade civil affairs officer from Mineral, Ill., and Reinhart first began to win the confidence of the people here by scheduling Medical Civic Action Programs (MEDCAP) visits twice weekly.

More than 1,939 persons were treated including 230 children who received inoculations against cholera and smallpox. Hamlet residents responded in mass, often during heavy monsoon rains, to receive medical care.

"The people got used to seeing our paratrooper medics," said Reinhart. "Our friendship grew and one thing led to another. I found that many of their medical problems stemmed from a lack of cleanliness. But there was no water. The wells were dry."

With the help of hamlet citizens, Reinhart launched a program of digging wells. "The people responded and did most of the work," Reinhart said. "We just furnished the materials and technical skill."

As wells were dug, Reinhart noted a lack of drainage in the area. "During the monsoons, the village became a virtual mud-puttle," he said.

ROADS BUILT

Enlisting the help of combat engineers from A Co., of the 326th Engineer Bn. (Abn), Reinhart and the civil affairs team began to build roads. Tons of earth were moved to fill in low areas. Drainage ditches were cut. Culverts installed. A quagmire was eliminated.

The paratrooper civil affairs team looked for other projects which would involve hamlet residents. Construction of a school was the next goal.

Hamlet residents responded to

Reinhart's suggestion. With materials furnished by the Americans and help from the engineers, the school was constructed. Hamlet citizens are building furniture. School will begin soon.

More than six and one-half tons of cement and 23,000 board feet of lumber were used to construct the wells and school. Four pumps provide an abundance of water for the once-thirsty hamlet.

"Before we leave here, we hope to build a dispensary," said Reinhart. "The people now recognize the need for hygiene and medical attention."

The paratrooper civil affairs team has found the villagers of Ly Tra like any other people in the world. "When they understand they are building for themselves, building for their future, everyone works together," Reinhart added. "Ly Tra is a better place to live because its people wanted to help themselves."

Even NVA Get Pains

CHU LAI — Paratroopers of C Co., 1st Bn. (Abn), 327th Inf., rolled over one morning during Operation Wheeler and discovered they had spent the night not more than 15-feet from an NVA tunnel.

Pfc. Robert C. Maurice, Fort Worth, decided to investigate. After throwing in two grenades, he slipped into the hole, flashlight in one hand, pistol in the other.

All he found was tea and a strange looking brown powder. "What's this?" called Maurice to ARVN Staff Sgt. Thanh, the company interpreter.

Carefully, Thanh read the words printed on the packet, then walked over to a Hoi Chanh that was assisting the American forces. The two Vietnamese began laughing and Thanh carried the packet back to Maurice.

"It's headache powder," said Thanh. "VC medicine for pain in the head."

"Well how about that," laughed Maurice. "It's nice to know 'Charlie' gets headaches, too."

Troopers Eligible For Association

GREENVILLE, Tex. — Individuals who served honorably with the 101st Airborne Division are eligible for membership in the 101st Airborne Division Association.

Annual dues are \$5, which include a subscription to the Screaming Eagle Quarterly magazine.

By joining the association one can remain in contact with fellow Screaming Eagles.

Application should be made to the Secretary, 101st Airborne Division Association, P.O. Box 454, Greenville, Tex., 75401.



Cool Hatful

Spec. 4 Jimmy F. Brown Ruckford, Mich., refreshes himself with a helmetful of water as paratroopers of the 1st Bn. (Abn), 327th Inf., patrolled during Operation Wheeler.

(Photo by Staff Sgt. Art Campbell)

'Wheeler' Passes 1,000 Kill Mark

CHU LAI—Operation Wheeler, the Screaming Eagles' northernmost penetration in Vietnam claimed 1,000 enemy in slightly more than nine weeks of search and destroy action 18-miles west of here.

Contributing dramatically to the new brigade record for a single combat operation were 26 NVA killed by C Co. of the 2nd Bn. (Abn), 327th Inf., in a contact with an estimated NVA company on Nov. 11.

The clash began at 12:45 p.m. when the 3rd Plat. led by Lt. Michael McDermott, Highmore, S.D., approached a hut complex at the base of a hill. Pointman, Spec. 4 Steve Slocum, Panama City, Fla., spotted three NVA running from a hut. Slocum killed two and wounded the third.

"From that moment on, we were in contact," said Spec. 4 James G. Barron, the company medic from Escondido, Calif.

Slocum led the platoon charge in a thorough search of each hut.

"We also were drawing sniper fire from NVA in spider holes," said Barron. "One 'Charlie' threw a grenade which landed four or five feet from the lieutenant. While I patched him up, he was calling in artillery. When I finished, Lt. McDermott was back on his feet directing our attack."

Third platoon killed 15 NVA in the encounter and another 11 bodies were found in a search of the battlefield the next day.

A detainee told intelligence officials later that 21 other NVA were seriously wounded in the fight with C Co.

Five AK-47's, a Russian light machine gun, an SKS rifle, numerous rounds of small arms ammunition and rucksacks containing documents were captured in the contact.



Cherubic Modesty

This pretty little Vietnamese miss presents a coy portrait as she receives her smallpox vaccination during a MEDCAP conducted by paratroopers of the 1st Bn. (Abn), 327th Inf., at Ly Tra. (Photo by Sgt. Bob Chambers)



Spent Round

Spec. 4 Ron Burboa, Oxnard, Calif., removes an empty shell from his M-79 grenade launcher as Spec. 4 Johnny Seals, Milwaukee, watches for enemy movement during a contact with NVA elements. Both paratroopers are members of A Co., 2nd Bn. (Abn), 582nd Inf. (Photo by Pfc. Robert Mosey)

Knock Out Bunker

Hawks Bolster Line Companies

CHU LAI—A handful of paratroopers in the Hawk Plat., 101st Airborne fought NVA, rain and darkness to successfully execute five night link-up actions without sustaining a casualty during Operation Wheeler west of here.

"It was one of the most frightening nights of my life," said Spec. 4 George Fallon, Jersey City, N.J. Fallon, a pointman, pawing the ground aimlessly with his foot as he remembered the events of that night:

"We were at the battalion command post when word came that the 4th Plat. of C Co. was in contact and heavy ground fire prevented medevac choppers from getting in. Two helicopters tried to get in but were downed."

The Hawk platoon leader, Lt. John McKnight, Toccoa, Ga., led his men to the site of the downed aircraft and secured a landing zone for A Co. of the 2nd Bn. (Abn), 327th Inf. The company was to secure the area so the helicopters could be extracted. Recovery of the aircraft could not be accomplished because of heavy ground fire. The ships were destroyed.

"We moved out with A Co. toward the area where C Co. was in contact," said Fallon.

Night Brings Rain

"As night fell it began to rain," recalled Sgt. Richard C. Vaughn, Fort Lauderdale, Fla. "About 7 p.m., A Co. made contact with an NVA force at the base of a hill. We moved to flank the enemy from the

right."

While the Hawks maneuvered around the base of the hill, crossing a small stream and trail, they could hear the intensity of the firefight between A Co. and the enemy.

"We could see white and green tracers coming from a bunker in the center of a hut complex," said Fallon. "A Co. was firing back and their red tracers cut across our front."

McKnight realized the bunker had to be eliminated in order to take the pressure off A Co. He led the Hawks down the right flank of the enemy and the paratroopers crawled under the tracers from A Co. machine guns.

"It was scary, but we got into position without a scratch and coordinated our attack on the bunker," Fallon continued. "We eliminated the bunker with grenades and moved out."

After rejoining A Co., McKnight moved his platoon out to link up with the scattered elements of C Co.

Flares Light Skies

"We had illumination from flareships and artillery and reached Charlie's first element about 9 p.m.," said Vaughn. "We moved back with them to the C Co. command post and stayed there about 15 minutes."

McKnight's platoon learned the location of another G Co. force, linked up and guided them back to the command post.

Later the Hawks started toward the 4th Plat. and fought their way through a maze of

enemy-occupied spider holes.

"There were snipers everywhere," said Fallon. "It was hard to find the enemy in the dark."

Reaching the 4th Plat., the Hawks helped them move their wounded to a secure area where medevac helicopters could come in.

"Those guys in 4th Plat. were really spirited," said Vaughn. "No one complained. One guy used his web gear to hold his pants up. When we took his gear off to bandage his wound, his pants kept falling down. Everybody kidded him about being so skinny."

After the wounded were evacuated, those unhurt were guided back to the C Co. command post.

Again the Hawks moved out, linking up with the last element at 5 a.m.

"I've been through a lot of stuff in my first year here," said Vaughn. "I had never been through anything like that night."

Fallon agreed.

NCO Outslugs Enemy Soldier

CHU LAI — What started out as a routine search of a Vietnamese village turned into a slugfest for a 101st Airborne sergeant during Operation Wheeler near here recently.

A Co. of the 2nd Bn. (Abn), 502nd Inf., moved into the small village complex located adjacent to a large rice paddy. Quickly securing the area, the "Strike Force" troopers began a systematic search of each hut. As the Americans conducted the search, an ARVN interpreter attached to A Co. questioned the village residents.

"They say the Viet Cong have weapons hidden in tunnels near here," the interpreter told platoon leader Lt. Jack A. Rogers, Berkeley, Calif. "They say they don't know where."

Rogers directed his first squad to make a reconnaissance of the area in hopes of finding the weapons caches. Staff Sgt. John Jurinsky, Worcester, Mass., led the patrol into the thick jungle at the rear of the village.

Heard Footsteps

"We were beating the brush when we came to a well-used trail," said Jurinsky. "Then we heard footsteps coming toward us."

At first Jurinsky thought it was a paratrooper rear security element. "We found out differently when we came to a sharp bend in the trail," he said.

The patrol found themselves staring at six armed Viet Cong who were still unaware of the American's presence.

"A split-second later the VC saw us and froze," Jurinsky said. "Believe me, the shock was mutual. No one fired a shot."

The Viet Cong reacted in a wholly unpredictable manner. The shocked enemy dropped their weapons and started running.

"They scattered into the brush and we couldn't fire for fear of hitting our men who were still near the village," said Jurinsky.

Pushing the safety on his M-16 rifle to semi-automatic, Jurinsky motioned the patrol to follow him and they gave chase.

"I was running up the trail unaware I was far ahead of the rest of my patrol, when a black pajama form lunged at me from

the bushes," Jurinsky recalled.

Wrestles a VC
A Viet Cong grabbed Jurinsky's rifle and tried to take it away from him. Two other VC leaped out of the brush and dashed up the trail.

Jurinsky yanked his weapon free from the enemy and struck him with the barrel. The VC fell to the ground and Jurinsky fired three quick shots from the hip at the fleeing enemy. Both collapsed.

Other members of the patrol rushed past Jurinsky to continue pursuit of the remaining three. Pfc. William Austin, Athens, Ga., stopped to collect the enemy weapons as Jurinsky secured his assailant.

"Great show 'Quick Draw McGraw,'" joked Austin. "Wild Bill would have been proud. Anything I can do to help you?"

"Yeah," said Jurinsky. "Next time I want to walk point, give me a swift kick."

8 Commanders Given 'Colors'

CHU LAI — One battalion commander and seven other unit leaders received their colors in recent change of command ceremonies.

Lt. Col. Howard Danford, Alledo, Ill., received the flags of the 2nd Bn. (Abn), 502nd Inf., from Lt. Col. Ralph Puckett, Jr., Columbus, Ga. Col. Puckett assumed the post of brigade executive officer.

In the 1st Bn. (Abn), 327th Inf., Capt. Julius F. Johnson, Washington, D.C., was named to A Co., and Capt. Edgar F. Burch, Boulder, Colo., is commander of B Co.

Ceremonies in the 2nd Bn. (Abn), 327th Inf., passed the colors of A Co. to Capt. Lyndol L. Cook, Marina, Calif. Capt. John Miller, Springfield, Mo., took command of B Co.

In the 2nd Bn. (Abn), 502nd Inf., Capt. Charles P. Otstott, LaHabra, Calif., now commands A Co., and Capt. Thomas K. Mercer, Ft. Benning, Ga., leads B Co.

Lt. Frederick E. Van Horn, Murphy, N.C., was named commander of D Btry., 2nd Bn. (Abn), 320th Arty.



Always on Guard
A paratrooper of the 2nd Bn. (Abn), 327th Inf., stays alert for enemy movement while his buddies take a break during a lull in Operation Wheeler fighting. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Mike Mangiameli)



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'Contact' Puts Brain in Motion

By SP5 William P. Singley
CHU LAI — The brain is the central part of the nervous system which responds to stimuli and receives, records, evaluates and initiates a course of action or response.

In the 101st Airborne, this is the Tactical Operations Center (TOC).

Outside, the hum of generators drone in the night. Thin shafts of light cut through the tent flaps.

Inside, bright lights cause the visitor to blink. Acetate covered maps shimmer along the walls. A cob-web of wires cling to 16 telephones that wait to demand.

The occupants of this nerve center wait.

Two officers wearing artillery insignia sip coffee from paper cups as they look at a map covered by many-colored circles. All circles overlap.

Another man writes a letter home. At the aviation desk, a man wearing the CIB mechanically thumbs through a worn issue of PLAYBOY. Another places various marks with grease pencils on a map. It looks like a tourist's guide to Disneyland, but this is not California.

Others read. Some fill out forms. A few stare into the nothingness searching for memories of the past, hopes for the future.

The daytime rush and extra men have abandoned the TOC. It belongs to the nightshift. It has the outward appearance of a place to relax.

Tempo Quickens

11:30 p.m. A radio rasps its rushing voice. A hurried voice reports contact.

The TOC leaps to life. Still hands are busy now. Melancholy eyes are alert. Solitude has become tension.

11:31—The duty officer talks with the battalion tactical command post (TAC). He turns to the aviation sergeant: "They

want gunships."

Already the aviation control is ringing the hot-line to the helipad. At the operations map, a sergeant checks the coordinates called out by the duty officer, a former company commander. The aviation sergeant repeats them into his telephone. The receiver is cradled. "Gunships on the way," he announces.

The message is relayed to the battalion TAC.

11:36—A request calls for a Medevac. Eyes glance around the tent. Someone's hurt. How many? How serious? Can the "Dust-Off" get in?

Cigarettes grow long ashes which will as they lay untouched. Coffee grows cold.

"Guns are ready," reports an artillery sergeant. "We've got the 155's from the north."

"Hold off," says the captain, squinting intently to hear the conversation coming through his earphones. "They want the gunships and flares."

Medevac Responds

11:43—A helicopter passes above the TOC.

"Wonder if it's the Medevac," says a young Spec. 4, clutching a radio handset.

Alert, anxious men monitor the Air Force, artillery, aviation and command radios. Every message is recorded.

A plate of cake arrives from the messhall for the night shift. It remains untouched.

11:49 — "Spooky's arrived," reports the Air Force sergeant from one corner of the tent. The others nod, knowing the value of the flying arsenal now orbiting the element in contact.

The operations and duty sergeants study the contour lines on the map. They visualize the terrain where the paratroopers are fighting. The operations sergeant touches his pointer to a tiny, broken line and thinks aloud: "Right where the two trails meet."

"They're in a good position,"

answers the duty sergeant as he leans forward to inscribe a tiny circle at the trail junction.

Enemy Breaks Contact
 11:56 — "Medevac's spotted their signal," says the Army

aviation representative. "He's going in now."

12:02—"The contact has ended," reports the duty officer, removing the earphones and wiping the perspiration from his forehead. "No one is hurt badly."

You can feel the strain slip away. One man rubs the back of his head and leans back in his chair.

"Let's get some coffee," says another, rising from the operations map and tearing the cellophane from a cigar.

Coffee is poured. The ignored cake is now passed.

A Pfc. monitoring a radio repeats a message he has just received: "Only 'frag' wounds to two men. Enemy appears to have withdrawn. Flares still up; gunships are circling."

12:05—The events have been recorded and communicated to higher headquarters.

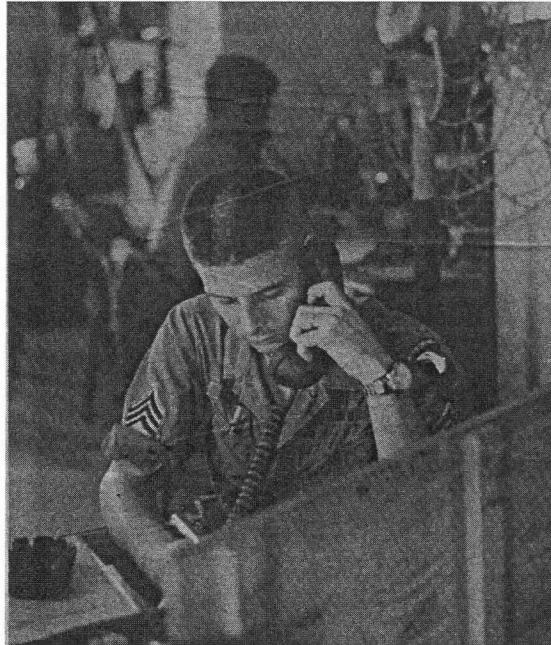
"Everytime I work a shift with you, something happens," says the artillery sergeant to the Operations NCO. "Hell, I can't help it if I'm a man of action," he answers, pointing to the Combat Infantryman Badge on his jacket.

Quiet Returns

Radios hiss endlessly now. Coffee is quaffed in quantity. A solitary piece of cake grows stale. Pens return to letters and "... where was I?" A dog-eared page of PLAYBOY is turned. Someone says to no one in particular: "Hope nothing else happens tonight."

Outside the generators hum in the night. Thin shafts of light escape through the tent flaps into the darkness.

The TOC relaxes. The brain waits.



Hot Line

Staff Sgt. Larry L. Frazier, Spring Lake, N.C., mans the intelligence desk in the Screaming Eagle Tactical Operations Center (TOC). Frazier is a former member of the Long Range Reconnaissance Platoon (LRRP) now assigned to brigade S-3.

(Photo by Spec. 5 William P. Singley)

Also Adjusts Gunship Fire

Medic Treats Muddy Troopers

By SP4 Dan Stroebel

CHU LAI — Spec. 4 Robert L. Carl, Melrose Park, Ill., a medic with the 101st Airborne, crawled on his hands and knees into the rice paddy where his platoon leader sergeant and buddies lay.

The 1st Plat. of B Co., 2nd Bn. (Abn), 327th Inf., was pinned down by intense enemy automatic weapons fire. Three paratroopers had fallen — wounded in the initial burst from the concealed enemy weapons. Repeated cries of "Medic" filled the air.

Carl knew the enemy was firing on everything that moved. He had to help. The nearest wounded man lay near a solitary bush which somehow looked misplaced in the midst of the flooded rice paddy.

Machine gun bullets stitched the mud and water around Carl as he crawled from one wet and wounded man to another. He blinked his eyes as the bullet-splattered mud struck his face.

Adjusts Fire

The acting platoon leader couldn't move. As Carl comforted the fallen paratrooper, the sergeant handed him the radio: "You adjust fire for the gunships up there," he said, his pained eyes shifting to the sky.

Carl did. He called in the helicopters with rockets and watched them 'swo-o-osh' into the target with deadly accuracy. Helicopters armed with 40mm grenades followed. The 'bam-bam' of the firing weapon sounded like a gasoline-powered washing machine struggling with an overload.

Carl would remember it later and say: "I was awful damn

busy." The gunships took the pressure off the paratroopers sprawled in the paddy. 'Charlie' stopped firing except for an occasional round. Carl continued to move from one wounded man to another. He pointed to a tree-line. Those who could crawl moved toward it.

Carl helped the platoon leader reach the protection of the trees. The medic picked up the radio:

"We've been hit," he said into the muddy mouthpiece. "Help is on the way," answered Capt. Ray Millard, St. Louis.

Carl filled in the details of the contact and the existing platoon situation.

Medevac Arrives

Moments later a Medevac helicopter circled the area. Colored smoke guided the mercy flight to the platoon. Quickly the wounded were evacuated.

Carl flopped down by a tree, mopped the sweat from his face with his hands. "It's been one of those days," he sighed to himself.

Paratrooper Guides Sergeant To Safety Under Enemy Fire

CHU LAI—Spec. 4 Claude Anderson, Jr., Oxford, N.C., braved a hail of enemy fire near here recently to rescue his wounded and temporarily blinded platoon sergeant.

During the 101st Airborne's Operation Wheeler, the 2nd Plat. of B Co., 2nd Bn. (Abn), 327th Inf., met stiff NVA resistance.

Anderson and the other platoon members were firing from the protection of a rice paddy dike. Plat. Sgt. Daniel R. Seijos, Natrona, Pa., was directing the maneuver elements and coordinating the action with his platoon leader.

"I happened to turn and see a medic bandaging Sgt. Seijos' head," said Anderson. "I didn't give it much thought because the 'Sarge' kept on fighting and giving instructions."

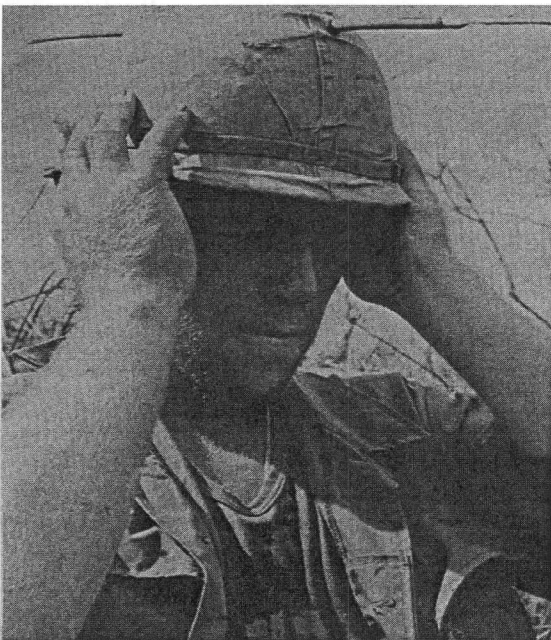
As the platoon fought off the enemy, Lt. John C. Finnucan, Springboro, Pa., had searched for a safer position. "The enemy was reinforcing his fires," he said. "We had to get out."

The platoon leader quickly directed his men to better positions, moving them one man at a time.

When it came Anderson's turn to move, he leaped to his feet and dashed for cover. "Sgt. Seijos was supposed to follow me," Anderson said. "I looked back and saw him stumble and fall. I knew something was wrong."

Anderson sprang to his feet again and dashed to the side of the fallen paratrooper. Realizing Seijos was partially blinded, Anderson guided him to safety.

Later, Anderson discounted his rescue: "It could have been anyone who helped him. I just happened to look back."



Close Call

Pfc. James L. Russell, Rockford, Mich., uses a stick to measure the space between his head and the path of an enemy bullet which pierced his helmet during Operation Wheeler. Russell is a machine gunner with C Co. of the 1st Bn. (Abn), 327th Inf.

(Photo by Staff Sgt. Art Campbell)

Ants Join VC

Tigers Fend Off Enemy's Attack

CHU LAI — A 101st Airborne reconnaissance element, Tiger Force of the 1st Bn. (Abn), 327th Inf., knows how to fight the enemy, but when ants attack — that's something else.

During Operation Wheeler west of here, the Tigers killed 58 VC and NVA in the first few weeks of action without friendly losses.

One afternoon, while conducting daylight ambushes, a paratrooper became ill and required evacuation. Ten Tigers moved cautiously down a hill to a distant landing zone. Pfc. Alfred Martinez, Reseda, Calif., was

protecting their rear.

"The enemy knew where we were," said Martinez. "You get so conditioned out here you can feel the enemy looking at your back."

Suddenly, Martinez saw movement behind him. He signaled the men to halt. Quickly, the Tigers deployed in ambush along the trail and waited.

Nothing happened.

The paratroopers moved out toward the landing zone and bent down the tall elephant grass for the incoming chopper, loaded their friend aboard, and started back toward the hill.

"I saw a man by a hut and pointed him out to the Sarge," said Pfc. Wyman Helms, Fort Meade, Fla. "Sarge said to let him go because a shot could reveal our position and we had to get back to the hill before dark."

The lone VC turned out to be part of an unknown-sized force which attacked the Tigers 50 yards later.

"Charlie opened up with everything," said Spec. 4 David Brocki, Muncie, Ind.

"They were lobbing in grenades," said Pfc. Ventura Leak, New York City. "I was pressing the ground so hard I felt like an ostrich and ants were crawling all over us."

A grenade exploded next to Leak, cutting a gash in his leg. Helms was wounded in the head.

Spec. 5 medic Richard A. Heise, East Aurora, N.Y., moved quickly among the Tigers, bandaging and rallying the wounded.

Before reinforcements could reach the stricken Tigers, a driving rain and darkness gave the enemy concealment to withdraw. One NVA body and weapon remained behind.

The Tigers linked up and moved back to their hill, carrying six wounded with them.

"The thing I remember most were the ants," said Helms, rubbing his arms and legs. "They bit us to pieces while we were pinned down." "They had to be VC ants," said Leak.

40 Winks Too Costly

CHU LAI—Forty winks recently cost three napping NVA their lives during Operation Wheeler.

Paratroopers of B Co., 1st Bn. (Abn), 327th Inf., had secured a small hamlet and were to begin a thorough search when Sgt. Robert Spilar, Jamaica, N.Y., decided to place a fire team on a nearby hill for security. Team leader Spec. 4 Jim Uphouse, Manchester, Md., led the way.

"On the way up we saw a hut," said Uphouse. "We moved in cautiously to investigate."

"All of a sudden we saw these two jokers sacked-out in their hammocks," said Pfc. David R. Lille, Hobart, Ind.

Uphouse quickly recognized them as NVA and shouted in Vietnamese for them to surrender. The shocked enemy leaped out of their hammocks and dashed for the jungle. Both fell in a burst of fire.

A few days later, the same team spotted an NVA soldier dozing beneath a tree. Spec. 4 Larry Kelly, Amarillo, Tex., called for the soldier to get up.

The surprised NVA leaped to his feet, took one look at the paratroopers, dropped his grenades and ran for the underbrush.

He also failed.



Close Support

An 81mm mortar crew from the 1st Bn. (Abn), 327th Inf., provides close fire support for paratroopers near the command post. Spec. 4 Heriberto Mejia, Lamont, Calif., protects his ears as section leader, Sgt. John A. Buheller, Mobile, Ala., watches the round in flight.

(Photo by Spec. 4 Ben Croxton)

Screaming Eagle Briefings

Dog Attacks

Pfc. Jerry W. Patterson, Albuquerque, N.M., moved cautiously into a tunnel recently, flashlight in one hand, his M-16 rifle in the other.

The 101st Airborne paratrooper of B Co., 2nd Bn (Abn), 327th Inf., inched along close to the tunnel wall. A shadow caught his eye. Something moved.

"I heard the movement and broke out in a cold sweat," Patterson said.

Easing his weapon to a firing position, Patterson extended his arm, aimed the flashlight toward the movement and turned on the beam.

A dog growled. "I breathed a sigh of relief," said Patterson. "I put my hand out and called the dog."

The animal lunged at Patterson's hand and bit him on the finger.

Patterson crawled out of the

tunnel and explained what happened.

His company commander and the senior medic decided Patterson and the dog should be evacuated for treatment and observation.

As Patterson and the dog boarded the chopper, the paratrooper looked at the animal. "You're supposed to be man's best friend," he said.

Joins 1st Cav

Col. Oscar E. Davis, former Deputy Commanding Officer (DCO) of the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, is now Assistant Division Commander (ADC) of the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile).

Recently he toured the base camp, acquainting himself with the unit and its facilities.

Davis is awaiting promotion to Brigadier General following a recent nomination after his tour with the Screaming Eagles.

VC Clobbered

A Viet Cong soldier saw stars during a midnight stroll when he walked into a 101st Airborne paratrooper's rifle barrel.

The Reconcos, a black-bereted reconnaissance force of the 2nd Bn. (Abn), 502nd Inf., were providing security during a night action when the point man suddenly froze and ordered the column to halt.

A short distance ahead were voices — Vietnamese voices.

"I was the last man in the column," said Sgt. Charles Payne, Rossville, Tenn. "I turned to face the rear and heard footsteps coming up the trail behind us."

A VC, his AK-47 rifle slung over his shoulder, walked into Payne.

"He was so surprised he didn't know what to do," Payne recalled. "I couldn't shoot because we didn't know what was in front of us, so I just clobbered him with the barrel of my rifle."

Securing their prisoner, the Reconcos continued their mission but the enemy ahead had vanished.

Refreshments

Women of a small Vietnamese village recently demonstrated

their kindness to a platoon of paratroopers from the 101st Airborne by supplementing a C-ration meal with 'pot luck'.

The men of the 1st Plat., A Co., 2nd Bn. (Abn), 327th Inf., halted near a cluster of huts to eat and rest.

"We hadn't been there long when some women approached us with hot roasted peanuts," said Pfc. Thomas A. Hoersch, Darby, Pa. "We thanked them and began eating the nuts. A few minutes later the women returned with pots of vegetables that tasted like potatoes."

"Another woman brought us fried corn and hot tea," said Pfc. Michael J. Baldwin, Schenectady, N.Y.

Refreshed with hot food and the warmth of Vietnamese hospitality, the paratroopers moved out into the hills.

Thief Nabbed

An NVA soldier was caught stealing by two paratroopers in the 101st Airborne during Operation Wheeler.

Spec. 4 Carl Lopez, Wickensburg, Ariz., and Spec. 4 Frederick Rodriguez, Chico, Calif., had dropped their packs to carry a wounded paratrooper from B Co., 1st Bn. (Abn), 327th Inf., to an LZ for medevac.

"We were on our way back by another route when we saw this 'Charlie' rummaging through our packs," said Lopez. "The guy had my buddy's camera on his shoulder, an American Flag in his hand and a souvenir kimono over his arm."

The surprised enemy reached for his weapon as the paratroopers fired. NVA, waiting in ambush positions near the rucksacks, opened fire only to be flanked by other elements of the paratrooper company.

"We surprised them from the rear," said Rodriguez. "They would have caught us if we had returned to our packs by the same route as we left."

After a brief firefight, the enemy broke contact and fled, leaving the would-be thief and his AK-47 near the rucksacks he tried to loot.



Vigil on Patrol

Alert for any sign of the enemy, Spec. 4 James D. Baker, Spokane, Wash., (left) and Spec. 4 Nicklos B. James, Gainesville, Fla., move down a mountain. Both are paratroopers with C Co. of the 1st Bn. (Abn), 327th Inf.

(Photo by Staff Sgt. Art Campbell)

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Walter R. Ostrander
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4507 N. Frace
Tacoma, WA 98407

SFC(R) Ken Pace
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4312 Meadowview Ct.
Colorado Sprgs, CO 80918-4314

Felix F. Padula
2/502 HHC 4/63-9/65 - 4/10
5770 Taylor Rd.
Painesville, OH 44077-9155

Charles E. Payne
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218 61st Street
Va. Beach, VA 23451

Don Perez
2/17th Cav A 66-67 - 7/10
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Claremont, CA 91711-5253

John C. Perry
1/30 ARTY B Bty 7/66-7/67 - 7/10
P.O. Box 144
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Gilbert Petramalo
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Mesa, AZ 85213

John A. Pippin \$
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Robert A. Press, Sr.
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Peter T. Ramirez \$
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Tulsa, OK 74136-2723

R. Jack Santos
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1504 Poinsettia Ave.
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Steve Vargo
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Valley Grove, WV 26060

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Grass Valley, CA 95949

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McGregor, MN 55760-5783

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MSG James D. Wilson, Sr.
1/327 HQ TF 7/65-6/66 - 4/10
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Vero Beach, FL 32966-7615

Dennis Rae Wright
2/502 E RECON 10/67-10/68 - 1/11
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Sacramento, CA 95822-1440

LTG(R) Robert "Greyhound" Yerks
2/327 Bn CO 5/67-5/68 - 4/10
152 Wildcat Drive
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Terry R. Zahn
SPT BN HQ EIT 7/65-5/66 - 4/10
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Omaha, NE 68116-5123

\$ = Above Subscription Price

Address Corrections

June 2, 2009 through
September 8, 2009

LTG(R) Steven L. Arnold
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LTC Howard Kirk
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LTC(R) Louis M. McDonald
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Roger J. Morris
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APO, AE 09096

Richard H. Murphy, Jr.
1/327 HHC T.F. 8/66-3/69 - 1/10
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Lynda Park
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1401 Old Newbern Road
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T. Brian Redington
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Steve Vargo
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Stuart Wait
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Grass Valley, CA 95949

MSG James D. Wilson, Sr.
1/327 HQ TF 7/65-6/66 - 4/10
6380 Oxford Circle, Unit #104
Vero Beach, FL 32966-7615

Bad Addresses

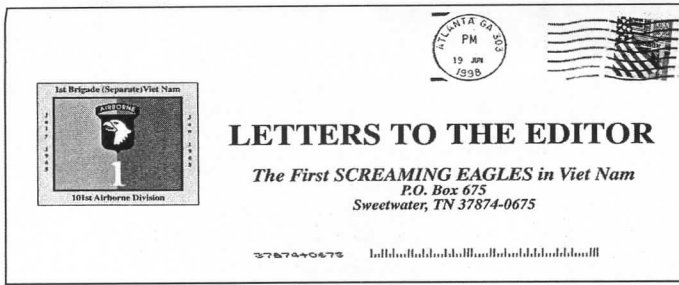
June 2, 2009 through
September 8, 2009

Bruce Gillmore
1/327 C 67-68
C/O 8721 Arley Drive
Springfield, VA 22153

Charles S. Kettles
HQ 1st Bde 5/67-11/67 - 7/09
1306 W. Cross St.
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Michael F. Murtaugh
2/327 A 9/66-9/67 - 7/09
712 Putnam Blvd #B
Wallingford, PA 19086-6701





U.S. POSTAL SERVICE

+ WILLIAM F. (BILLY) WELDON, 2/327 Inf A 6/67-6/68, 806 Grand Canyon Ave., Flagstaff, AZ 86001-5415, (928) 554-6180 along with his subscription renewal wrote: Great job always. Don't know how you do it. Talked to Terry Wren and Ed Dube two weeks ago. Capt. Pepper and Terry went back to Viet Nam. See you at next reunion.

+ RAYMOND A. "CHIP" LYNCH, 2/502 A 5/67-3/68, Box # 43, Rt. # 32, North Chatham, NY 12132, cell 518-788-1983 wrote: Thank you for the info on "Ram Rod" Tillman & Dean Beaupre from the picture I saw in "Static Line." I tired calling Lt Tillman on the number you supplied but the line is for out going calls only. I will write them – but it's been 41 years.

Enclosed is \$25.00 for 1st BDE dues (magazine subscription/no dues). I should have done this long ago.

Even though I was with XVIII Corp (50th Sig) and 82nd (504) my heart's always been with the "Strike Force." Hook me up.

Viet Nam time: A Co 4th Plt 2/502nd (May 67-Mar 68) and 101st Avn Group HHC Pathfinders Plt (Aug 69-Jul 70)

Thank you again – See you at next reunion!

+ JAMES R. VAN LONE, 1/327 C 7/65-7/66, 1917 - 60th St., Kenosha, WI 53140, (262) 652-8975 sent the following: It was a pleasure and honor speaking with you at Crossville.

Please "hook me up" to The First Eagles.

The trooper we're looking for is SP/4 Roger E. Hernandez, Oxnard, California. He served with us in C 1/327 from 4/64 to 1966. I'll send a picture when I get a good one.

Above the Rest Sir!
Jim Van Lone

Editor's Note: Roger Hernandez is not in my database. Can anyone help?

MRS. JOSEPH E. COLLINS, Family (COL-R Joseph E. 1/327 CO 67), 402 5th Street, Lewiston, ID, 83501-2410, (208) 743-8166 wrote: Again thank you and again an apology – I am so very sorry I was no good in supplying you with appropriate

photos for your fine publication. Jerry and I should have dug out all the boxes and closet shelves years ago and had things in some semblance of order. I know he had a deep affection for the Brigade – and very little sense of his own importance. He was a man of considerable humility.

You are so kind to send me a copy and to let me still feel a part of what meant so much to Jerry and myself.

With best regards, Caroline Collins

+ MICHAEL W. DEVOST, 46 APU 1/67-1/68, 10 Tyler Way, Apt 309, Williston, VT 05495, (802) 985-3615 wrote -- Continue to enjoy the reading of your magazine.

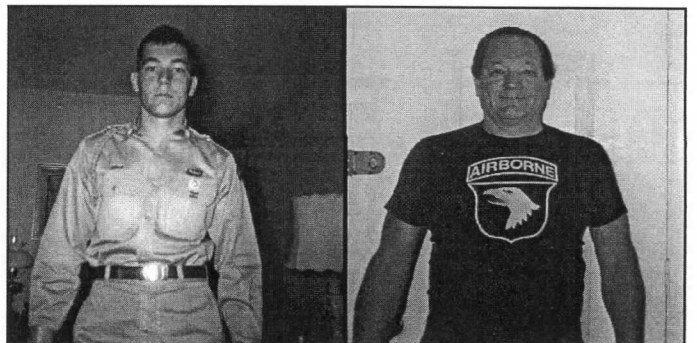
I do have a problem that perhaps (if you have time) you might help me with. I served with A Co. Spt BN in 1967. Our unit crest was "Support is Strength." Some how over time I've lost mine. The frustration is the store at Ft. Campbell doesn't have them. I called the Army Institute of Heraldry – they couldn't find it either.



If you have any idea who I can contact I'd appreciate it. Part of the frustration is that the crest is shown on the back cover of the VIETNAM ODYSSEY, on the right side in the middle.

Editor's Note: I have checked the net and cannot find it. Can anyone help?

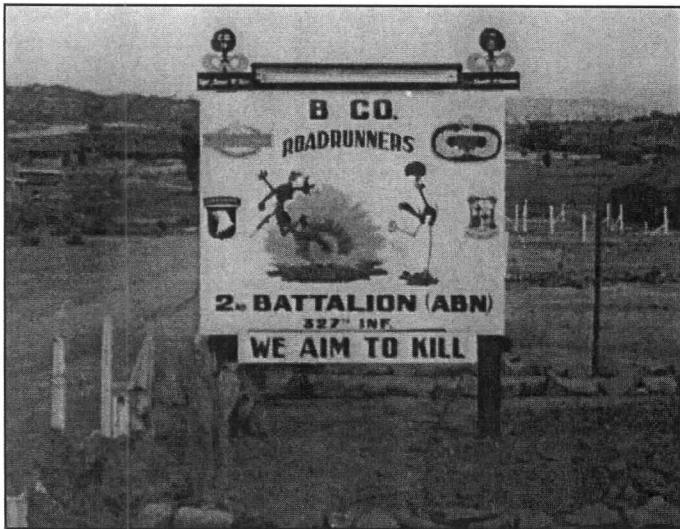
+ EDWARD S. BONK, JR., 2/327 B 7/65-6/66, 1800 Tomlinson Rd., Philadelphia, PA 19116-3850, (215) 464-2294 sent the following: I found some pictures so I thought I would send them to you in case you wanted to put them in the magazine.



Ed Bonk, 18 years old and just got assigned to the 101st in March 65. This picture was taken in April 65 when I was on leave. I was lean and mean with no body fat and Ed Bonk at home in Philadelphia, PA, August 2009. No more lean and mean.



Ed Bonk ready for combat. February 66
B Co., 2nd Bn, 327th INF, 3rd Platoon.



Vietnam, September 65
B Co., 2nd Bn, 327th INF, ROADRUNNERS.

E-MAIL

Issues 44 & 45

+ CPT BARRY HANA, HQ-PIO 3/67-3/68
231 McCullough Ave., Kirkwood, MO 63122
work (314) 753-8932, home (314) 394-0040
barryhana.pcs@charter.net

Ivan, like others, I sat down and read cover to cover issue #45, focusing on the various reports of the Que Son Valley battle.

Especially MG Patrick Brady's piece. Great writing and recall. Two great issues resulting from the St. Louis Post-Dispatch article on Scott Christofferson and his family. Funny the way things work out. Thanks for putting this together, and your continuing service.

Best Regards,



+ JOHN C. DAVIS, 2/327 C 6/67-4/68
12712 W. Georgia Ave., Litchfield Park, AZ 85340-3020
(623) 536-9775
ultraclassic08@outdrs.net

Could you send a copy of the First Screaming Eagle to a buddy of mine that was with me in Vietnam with C/2/327? After reading I am hoping he will subscribe.

C.E. Burgess, 916 N. Cooke St., Helena, MT 59601

Thanks, John Davis, C/2/327VN 67-68

Editor's Note: I'll send information on how to subscribe. I do not send out sample copies.

Vets finally receive welcome home

+ MAJ(R) WALTER W. JACKSON, 1/327 C 7/67-6/68
743 Wickham Fen Way, Boise, ID 83709-0169
(208) 322-5546
thejackson511@msn.com

The ceremonies seemed like any other welcome home ceremony at Fort Campbell's Hangar 3 at first glance Sunday. Families, friends and members of the Fort Campbell community filled the bleachers waiting for the hangar doors to open and for the formation to enter.

Three times the sequence repeated itself. Three times the hangar filled with the thunderous welcome home cheers. The members of these formations though were not currently serving with the 101st Airborne Division. They were all Vietnam veterans from every branch of service and across the U.S. More than 1,400 veterans took part in the ceremonies many referred to as long overdue.

Editor's Note: See story on page 6.

Charles Walter Harbert Co A, 2nd BN, 502nd INF, 101st ABN
DIV Vietnam

Kristine (Harbert) McClain
100 Hoover Drive, Inwood, WV 25428
MCMOM1220@aol.com

Dear Mr. Worrell,

My name is Kristine (Harbert) McClain. I am the niece of Charles W. Harbert who was KIA 05-12-68. Through trying to obtain info on the circumstances of his death as well as the possibility that someone somewhere may have a photo of him you were brought to my attention. So I am writing you in hopes that you or someone you may know knew my uncle and may have a photo that was taken of him while he was serving. He died the year I was born but I always wondered about him -- what type of person he was, his likes and dislikes, that kind of thing. I have been told that he was a funny, well-liked man and that it was an honor to serve with him... It meant the world

to me to read those words. I can't even begin to explain. Well whatever you can do I sure would appreciate. Thank you in advance. My mailing address is 100 Hoover Drive, Inwood, WV 25428. Uncle Charlie was an E-3 PFC. He was in Company A, 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry, 101st Airborne Division, Vietnam. I hope this is everything you need to be able to help. I appreciate all that you are doing. Take care and God Bless.

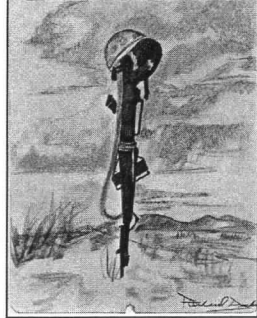
Sincerely, Kristine (Harbert) McClain

Editor's Note: I know this date of death is past the time when the Brigade was a separate unit but I believe he may have been in the brigade before January 1968.

+ = Current Subscriber



OBITUARIES



John R. Yeager, Jr. 2/502 C 11/66-9/67

YEAGER, John R. (Tray) Jr., 62, a True American War Hero, passed away Saturday June 20, 2009. John was born to John R. and Joan Wilson Yeager Sr. in Parsons, WV on December 19, 1946. John graduated from Weir High School in 1964, and immediately enlisted in the United States Army, serving in the 101st Airborne Division- "Screaming Eagles" where he was a recipient of a Purple Heart and two Bronze Stars, one with letter V device First Oak Leaf Cluster. After fighting in Vietnam, John returned home for a life devoted to fighting for justice as an attorney. Initially, he was employed by Weirton Steel, where he worked in the B.O.P. He eventually earned his Law Degree from West Virginia University, and opened his law practice in Weirton in 1978. John served as the City Attorney for four years during Mayor William Miller's administration. He also served as legal counsel for the City of Weirton Housing Authority, and the Colliers Sportsman's Club. John's true passion was helping others. He offered a lot of pro bono legal counsel for local veterans, served as Mental Health Commissioner for 20 years, was the keynote speaker at numerous veteran groups, and authored articles in the Time Life Magazine. John was a member of the VFW 2716, and the First United Methodist Church in Weirton, where he formerly taught adult Sunday school. He was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed fishing and spending time with his family. John is survived by his parents, John R. and Joan Wilson Yeager of Toronto, Ohio (formerly of Weirton, W.Va.); his wonderful devoted wife, Ethel Madden Yeager, whom he married on August 1, 1970; his daughter Christina Glosser and her husband, Aaron; his granddaughter, Brianna Glosser all of Weirton; his brother, Tim Yeager and his wife, Marla of Toronto, Ohio, his sisters, Sherry Foglio and her husband, Tony of Toronto, Ohio, Cyndy Fisher, and her husband, Rusty of Weirton, and Nancy Ballato and her husband, Sars of Colliers, W.Va. Visitation was Tuesday at the Greco Hertnick Funeral Home 3219 Main Street Weirton, WV. Additional visitation on Wednesday was at the First United Methodist Church 3301 West Street Weirton from 11 a.m. until time of



services at Noon. Pastor Tony Foglio presided. Interment followed in Union Cemetery, Steubenville, Ohio, with full military graveside services conducted by American Legion Post 10 Honor Guard. Memorial contributions may be made in John's memory to the Disabled American Veterans P.O. BOX 14301 Cincinnati, OH 45250-0301 Attn: Gift Processing.

June 24, 2009

JOHN PASQUALE,
B/2/502 65-66
pasquale2502@aol.com

Hey Guys,

We just lost a fellow trooper -- John Yeager past away Saturday, June 20th. If you don't know him -- he was in 1st BDE C Company 2/502 101st Abn from 66-67. He was a good man. We were at the reunion in Atlanta, GA in 06. I was going to see if he wanted to go to Hampton, VA this time. So as of now he is AWOL. Big drop zone in the sky. Checking out security for the rest of us. Lead the way trooper. Airborne

Gene "Hard Core" Perry 2/327 HHC 7/67-7/68 September 11, 1929 - June 17, 2009

Mr. Eugene "Gene" M. Perry, age 79, of Mountain Home, passed away June 17 at Baxter Regional Medical Center. A memorial service, with military honors, was held 2:00 P.M. June 26 at Roller Funeral Home, conducted by Rev. John Steer.

He was born Sept. 11, 1929 in Taunton, Massachusetts to Elvida & Manuel Perry. He married Shelva Dixon on April 30, 1988 in Tampa Florida. Gene loved and served his country from July 7, 1948 until his retirement from the U.S. Army on Jan. 31, 1973. He served 13 years in Germany, also served in Vietnam and is the recipient of the Purple Heart, Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster. He has his master jumper wings and various other medals. He was a lifetime member of the Purple Heart Association, VFW Post 3246 in Mountain Home and the Sunshine Chapter of the 101st Airborne Association and a volunteer for the Baxter County Veterans Office.

Survivors include his wife, Shelva "Shelly" Perry of Mountain Home; two sons: Michael (Donna) Perry and Shawn Perry, both of Tampa, Florida; two daughters: Debra Barclay of Michigan and Cynthia (Tony) Giruzzi of New York; step daughter, Desiree Gurley of Texas; step-son Alex Ortega of Tampa, Florida; brother, Edmund M. Perry of Canton, Massachusetts and several nieces and nephews.

Memorial Contributions are suggested to the VFW Post 3246 or the Purple Heart Association.

Roller Funeral Home, Mountain Home,
Arkansas, 870-425-2161



South Viet Nam. The wet monsoon for the Delta begins in April and lasts until October; coastal lowlands' monsoon begins in October and ends in April; Highlands' monsoon begins in April and ends in October.

3. Population (14 million).

a. Approximately one million North Vietnamese who have crossed the 17th parallel border now reside in South Viet Nam.

b. Additionally one million ethnic Chinese, approximately one-half of which reside in the Cholon area of Saigon, also make up the population figure.

c. Cambodians residing within the South Vietnamese borders comprise approximately 500,000.

d. In the highlands area, there are approximately 700,000 Montagnards divided into 33 major groupings. These are not Vietnamese by racial extraction, but are rather of Indo-Malayan and Polynesian stock who remain relatively isolated from the main stream of Vietnamese political relations.

e. The remaining 10,800,000 are Vietnamese, the majority of whom live in the Delta and coastal lowlands.

4. Religion and Customs.

a. The predominant religion is Buddhism; however approximately two million people profess Roman Catholicism, with several thousand following Protestant and Hindu denominational religions.

b. The Vietnamese social system is founded and based upon a "clan". The clan is a system whereby all families have as their root, a common ancestor(s).

c. The most sacred and solemn events revolve about marriage and death. Marriage is considered to be a family affair; a matter of interest to the family community and not the exclusive concern of the bride and groom. Death is the beginning of their ancestor worship, involving an intricate, solemn ceremony.

SECTION IV
SECURITY REQUIREMENTS

Personal Security

1. Personal Security: While stationed here in Viet Nam you should constantly keep in mind that the Viet Cong are actively engaged in terror-

istic activities directed against U.S. personnel. There have been numerous incidents involving bombings and other atrocities resulting in death and injuries to Americans.

a. Park vehicles in a secure area, and lock them. Do not leave a vehicle unattended unless in a secure area that is under guard.

b. Before entering a vehicle, determine that there are no suspicious objects, wires or strings inside, underneath or attached to the vehicle. Check under the hood, seats, chassis, dash, inside the glove compartment, and the gas tank. DO NOT ATTEMPT TO REMOVE ANY SUSPICIOUS ITEMS FOUND.

c. Avoid routine in routes and times of movement if possible.

d. Avoid remote areas and alleys.

e. Avoid late hours. If you must go out late at night or visit remote areas, travel with someone else. Remember the "Buddy System" but don't travel with groups.

f. Avoid crowds when possible and civil disturbances at all times.

g. Report to nearest security element, packages left laying by Vietnamese Nationals.

h. Be suspicious of bikes, with packages or saddle bags, or vehicles that appear abandoned near American installations, or sites where Americans congregate.

2. Security of Classified Information: Due to the nature of this assignment many of you may have access to classified information. This information is vital to the enemy, and he is using every trick in the book to get it. Whether he is successful or not depends on you. You will often be in the presence of Vietnamese Nationals, any one of whom could be a Viet Cong agent. Do not discuss classified information without first determining who's listening. Remember, that radios and telephones are not secure, walls are thin and listening devices have been used and will be used again. DO NOT ALLOW YOURSELF TO BE PUT IN A COMPROMISING POSITION. Doing so can cause you to become a prime target for Viet Cong intelligence agents. Some acts that can get you in a compromising position are blackmarketing, illegal money exchange, excessive drinking and consorting with the opposite sex.

3. Summary:

a. Travel in pairs.

b. Secure vehicles.

c. Avoid late hours.

- d. Avoid crowds.
- e. Do not become involved in disputes.
- f. Do not allow yourself to be put in a compromising position.

SECTION V
HEALTH HAZARDS

1. Maintaining your personal health in Viet Nam will be a problem only if you make it so. Good habits of personal hygiene and strict adherence to rules and regulations will insure that you retain your physical well-being. The following precautions and rules must be adhered to in order to prevent the diseases indicated.

a. Disentery and Diarrhea: Caused by contaminated food and water. It is possible that all newly assigned personnel may experience some initial intestinal discomfort due to the change in water and climate. Basic habits of good personal hygiene will prevent serious intestinal disorders. Insure that utensils, cups, glasses and hands are completely clean, whenever possible, prior to consuming food. All local, untreated water is to be considered unsafe for drinking.

b. Typhoid, Cholera, and Hepatitis: From contaminated food and water. Avoid eating raw vegetables, fruits, salads, milk, ice cream, and cream products from local sources.

c. Malaria: Caused by the bite of an infected mosquito. Strict adherence to established procedures will control the spread of this disease. An anti-malaria pill is administered in this command to every trooper daily. A second is also taken each Monday. Failure to take them will render you susceptible to a disabling and sometimes fatal disease. The following additional precautions must be followed:

(1) Roll down the sleeves of your fatigue jacket during the hours of dusk and darkness, or during daylight hours when operating in dense jungle terrain.

(2) Procure and utilize insect repellent on exposed parts of the body; insecticides (aerosol bombs) must be used in rooms, tents, or vehicles.

(3) When operational conditions permit, sleep under a mosquito net. Nets must be tucked in and sprayed on the interior.

d. Dengue Fever: Caused by the bite of an infected mosquito. With the exception of the anti-malaria pills, the same preventative measures taken

for malaria will prevent the contraction of this disease.

e. Scrub Typhus: Caused by mites. Sound habits of basic personal hygiene as well as frequent airing of bedding will prevent this disease.

f. Immersion Foot: Although classified as "Cold Injuries", you may, without proper personal care develop Immersion Foot. When body heat is lost because the body is constantly wet (wet boots and socks), the tissue will freeze rendering you liable to loss of toes or feet. To prevent this, dry your feet at every opportunity and exercise your toes. Always carry an extra pair of socks (dry) and never sleep in wet boots (remove same before sleeping). Finally, massage the feet, and toes regularly.

g. Fungus: The armpits, groin, and feet are especially liable to infection. Cleaning, drying, and foot powder will take care of the feet. Similar measures should be taken with the armpits and groin.

h. Heat Injuries: Newly arrived personnel will require between 10 days and 2 weeks to acclimatize themselves to the heat of Viet Nam. Do not attempt strenuous physical labor during this period. Gradually increase your work load during hotter parts of the day until you are acclimatized. Drink all the water you want and take salt tablets frequently. During hot weather you may require as much as 8-9 canteens of water per day. Always take salt with your water but never salt without water.

i. Venereal Disease: Most of the prostitutes in the cities and towns in Viet Nam have some form of venereal disease. Gonorrhoea is the most common; however syphilis and the other forms of VD are seen occasionally. It is acquired by sexual contact with an infected female.

If several days after contact, you notice the onset of a urethral discharge or burning upon urination you are required to contact your unit surgeon. Further, should a sore on the penis or glands in the pubic area appear and enlarge within six to eight weeks after contact you are required to contact your unit surgeon.

Current directives and regulations prohibit disciplinary action against those who contract VD; however; those who knowingly conceal the disease are subject to disciplinary action as well as the physical consequences that accompany the advanced stages. A few of the results of advanced VD are: ultimate blindness, insanity, and death. Additionally, syphilis can be passed to your wife, causing your children to be born with serious physical and mental defects.

SECTION VI LOCAL LAWS AND CUSTOMS

1. GENERAL:

a. All personnel assigned to the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division will conduct themselves, at all times, in a manner which reflects favorably upon the United States and its Armed Forces. Conduct below this standard is not consistent with the mission of this command and will not be tolerated. Your conduct, as a trooper of this Brigade, reflects favorably or unfavorably upon every member of this command. Combat duty does not diminish your requirement to lead the way in standards of conduct and appearance for all troops in Viet Nam to observe.

b. Local laws will be adhered to by all personnel. Normally the exercise of good common sense will keep troopers well within local (Vietnamese) regulations. The following will be observed at all times:

(1) Orders of local civil (National) police and U.S. Military Police will be strictly obeyed.

(2) Brigade personnel will not interfere with the local police on behalf of a third person. Should a situation arise when intervention would appear appropriate, the Provost Marshal will be notified as soon as possible.

2. BRIGADE REGULATIONS:

a. Uniform and Insignia: Brigade regulation number 670-5 dated March 1966 prescribes the policies on the wearing of the uniform.

b. Registration and use of Firearms: Privately owned firearms are not authorized for any member of this Brigade. Once your weapon (M-16 or .45 cal. pistol) is issued you will retain same unless properly exchanged by competent authority (i.e., on order of your unit commanders).

c. War Trophies: Retention of war trophies requires certification from the unit commander and the S-2 indicating that the item is of no further intelligence value to the U.S. Government. The items must then be properly registered with the Brigade Provost Marshal.

d. Serious Crimes or Incidents: Individuals who become aware of serious crimes or incidents will immediately report such facts to their unit commander or the Brigade Provost Marshal.

e. Blackmarket Activities: The purchase of any item from an Exchange on behalf of any person who is not an authorized patron of such exchange is prohibited. The sale, barter, exchange, loan, or transfer of possession of any item purchased from an Exchange facility to Vietnamese Nationals or other residents of Viet Nam who are not authorized patrons of such facilities is prohibited, except in the case of bonafide gifts.

f. Currency Exchange: The possession of U.S. dollars in Viet Nam is illegal. Military Payment Certificates are issued in lieu of dollars and

will be used for all purchases in military establishments. Piasters will be used for all purchases on the local economy. A currency exchange facility is maintained by the Brigade Finance Officer and by designated payroll agents on payday. Currency should not be exchanged at other (Vietnamese) locations due to the high possibility of receiving counterfeit currency (Vietnamese), as well as increasing your vulnerability to assault, larceny, and homicide while involved in such transactions.

g. Importation of Items: The following items will not be imported into Viet Nam.

- (1) Narcotics
- (2) Explosives, ammunition or fireworks
- (3) Privately owned weapons
- (4) Articles manufactured or produced in Communist China, North Viet Nam, or North Korea.
- (5) Obscene or pornographic articles, literature, or pictures.

b. Off Limits Areas and Curfews:

(1) Off limits areas will be announced by the commander as required and will be strictly observed by all U.S. personnel assigned to this Brigade.

(2) Established curfew hours, as announced by your commander, will be adhered to by all personnel. Deviation in these matters rests solely with the commander. Strict disciplinary action will be administered to violators.

SECTION VII RELATIONSHIP WITH LOCAL POPULACE & ARVN

1. Remember Our Mission: Our mission here is dual in scope yet in fact one in execution. We are Diplomats and Warriors in that we must be ambassadors without portfolio as well as fighters par excellence. Our every act of kindness or misconduct reflects favorably or unfavorably upon the image which we, as representatives of the United States Government, project to the Vietnamese people. Our Warrior aspect is unchallenged, yet, as professionals, we must ever strive to profitably learn from our experiences.

2. The Vietnamese People: There are no unimportant Vietnamese. This conflict will be won or lost in the hearts and minds of the people. Be ever mindful of the American reputation for kindness, generosity, and courtesy

with respect to civilians in this combat theater. Your every act of courtesy, or misconduct, will rapidly be known by every Vietnamese in this area. "The word gets around!"

3. The Army of the Republic of Viet Nam (ARVN): Contrary to what you might hear, the Vietnamese soldier is good. He has been fighting constantly for a number years and is acutely aware of the ravages of war. He is not to be looked down upon, but is to be regarded as a staunch and faithful ally.

SECTION VIII RELATIONSHIP WITH NEWS MEDIA

1. The Information Program in Viet Nam - like everywhere else - is organized into three phases. The Public Information program is that which gets news about you to the public. The Command Information program is that which gets information to you (formerly known as the Troop Information Program). Community relations is concerned with our people to people program performed by the U.S. Army Personnel.

As you well know, Viet Nam has been the focal point of the news for some time now! At any given time there are approximately 500 correspondents in the country representing press, radio, and television.

One particular point is worthy of special note. Army regulations specifically state that each individual is responsible personally for any information he gives to correspondents. So be extremely careful. You might be thinking now that you as an individual might have little chance of even seeing a correspondent; but here in Viet Nam, this is not true. The only way newsmen can get news is to get out and see people like you. This they do... they get out and dig. That's their job. At any rate...cooperate, but be careful.

2. The following items are not to be discussed with newsmen:

a. Classified information - if it's classified, say so. Newsmen understand, if you just tell them. If you're in doubt, let them go without.

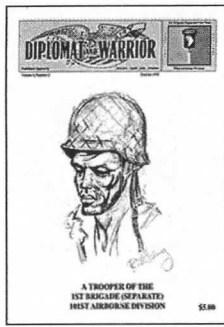
b. Operational information - don't discuss our tactics or any specifics about operational matters. This helps the Viet Cong and we'd just as soon not do that.

c. Hits on aircraft - Again here is information the Viet Cong are very interested in. It also may help them to correct deficiencies.

d. Casualties - Not to be discussed until after release thru official



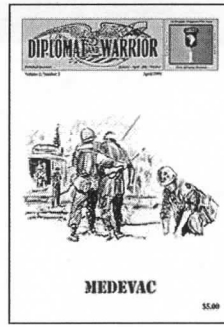
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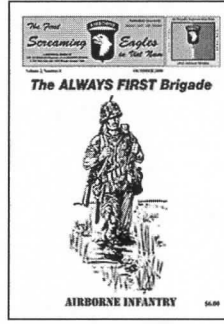
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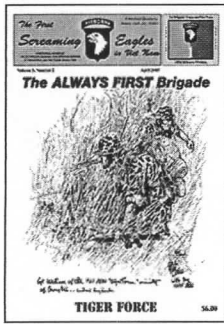
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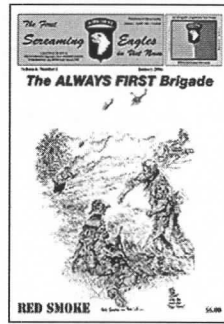
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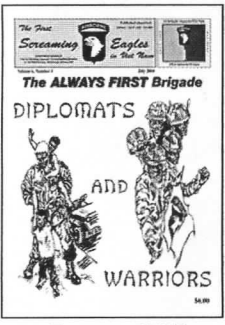
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Issue #28



Issue #29



Issue #30

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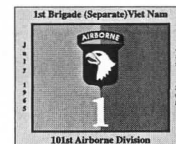
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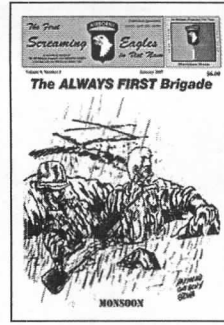
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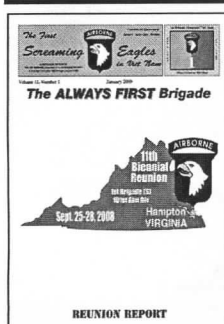
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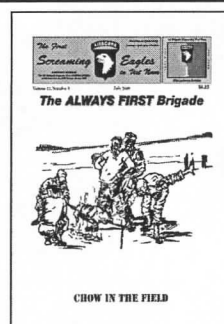
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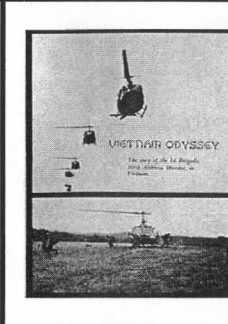
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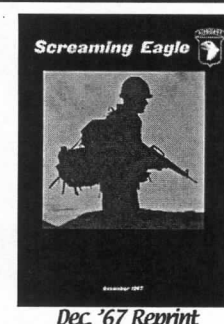
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The 1 1/2 inch diameter coin is crafted in vivid colors, has a beveled edge and is coated with a clear acrylic to preserve the coin's surface. (It is unfortunate that it cannot be shown here in color.) Cost is \$10.00 per coin, postpaid. See page 34 for order form.

THE FIRST SCREAMING EAGLES IN VIET NAM

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

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Following is a short description of the contents of this magazine.

ILT JAMES GARDNER MOHPAGES 1 – 5

Stories and pictures of the ceremony to donate the original Medal of Honor to the 101st Airborne Division by the sister of the recipient. The Medal of Honor will be displayed in The Hall of Heroes at the entrance to Division Headquarters.

WELCOME HOME VN VETSPAGES 6 & 7

Story and pictures of the Welcome Home Viet Nam Veterans by the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) during Week of the Eagles at Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

BASTOGNE BRIGADE DMOR FORMATIONPAGES 8 & 9

Story and pictures of the 327th Infantry Regiment formation honoring those who have been selected as Distinguished Members of the Regiment, Honorary Colonel of the Regiment and Honorary Members of the Regiment.

STATIC LINE AWARDSPAGES 10 & 11

Two pages of photos of First Brigade (S) veterans who attended the STATIC LINE AWARDS FESTIVAL in Atlanta, Georgia; they include the First Brigade (S), 101st Airborne Division and 75th Ranger Regiment selections of Man of the Year.

COBRA LAKE REUNIONPAGES 12 & 13

Pictures of the annual C Company 1/327 Reunion at Cobra Lake near Crossville, Tennessee.

HOLE IN HELMETPAGE 14

Photos of the helmet worn by Dale Burkman mentioned by Herb Williams in his story about the battle of Que Son Valley in the July 2009 issue.

NEWS RELEASE AND CLIPPAGES 14 & 15

A news release about A Troop 2/17th Cavalry; a Chieu Hoi story from the STARS and STRIPES and a news clip about the baseball prowess of Bill Cook.

REFLECTIONSPAGE 16

Review of the book of poems written by R. Jack Santos.

THE SCREAMING EAGLEPAGES 17 – 20

Copy of the Brigade unit newspaper published December 13, 1967. A list of those who are in the magazine data base and mentioned in this publication is on page 16.

SUBSCRIBERS' LISTPAGES 21 & 22

This list contains the names and addresses of new subscribers, renewing subscribers, address corrections and bad addresses.

LETTERS TO THE EDITORPAGES 23 – 25

Messages sent by mail and e-mail. Messages on the website have not been topical nor great in number.

OBITUARIESPAGE 25

Reports of the deaths of John R. Yeager, Jr. and Gene "Hard Core" Perry.

BRIEFING PACKETPAGES 26 – 32

The second installment of Briefing Packet. The final installment will be in the January 2010 issue.



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*The tiger, which was featured in the book **HARD CORE** by MAJ(R) Burrwood Yost, 2/502 C LRRP 12/65-7/67, is being carried to a landing zone for extraction. Left to right are SSG Yost and SGT Joe Delahaut [Angel Joe Delahaut, 2/502 C 11/65-7/67] and other members of the Hard Core squad. The jungle in this region had been defoliated with Agent Orange. **HARD CORE** by Bud Yost was featured in the July 2009 issue of *The FIRST SCREAMING EAGLES* in Viet Nam.*

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