

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 BRIGADE (S) COMMANDING GENERAL TALKS TO TROOPER



Colonel Jimmy Blackmon (right), Commander of the 159th CAB, 101st Airborne Division was the featured speaker at the Snowbird Reunion Banquet and made a great presentation that included his mission as an Aviation Brigade Commander. He is shown here awarding a cigar humidor to Ivan Worrell, INFO OFF 5/66-5/67, who had the winning ticket in a drawing. The ticket belonged to COL (R) Joe R. Alexander, 3/506 A 10/67-10/68, who had to leave the reunion early and asked me to check his tickets for him. After taking Joe's humidor to my room I returned to the hospitality room in time for the final drawing where my ticket number was called for the big prize – a humidor. I now have two humidors at home and am waiting for Joe, who lives nearby, to pick up the one of his choice.

Plans for the 50th Anniversary Commemoration are coming together for a great gathering of First Screaming Eagles in Nashville, Tennessee, on July 29th, 2015. See page 27 for the draft logo and other information.

The Snowbird Reunion, sponsored by the Gulf Coast Chapter of the 101st Airborne Division Association, in Tampa, Florida, was well worth driving 640 miles to attend. It was a great occasion to be with old friends and to make new friends. The Gulf Coast Chapter members worked very hard to make all aspects of the reunion operate smoothly. (See pages 28 and 29 for Snowbird pictures.)

I talked with CPT Barry Hana, HQ-PIO 3/67-3/68, who is the source for many of the center fold unit newspapers for the magazine. He is an organizer of the ceremony to commemorate the first parachute jump in St. Louis. You may note in the copy of the unit

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

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



paper in this magazine, Barry had marked it up as a training aid for his reporters and photographers. More about the commemoration of the first parachute jump and participation of First Brigade (S) veterans in that ceremony will be printed in the July 2013 magazine.

A renewal notice sent to Lowell T. Crace, 181 MI DET 9/66-9/67, made a round trip to Ho Chi Minh City but this time the mail was returned to him, not sent to me, the addressee. It was mailed on the 15th of January from Fayetteville, North Carolina, and returned to him on March 4th. This is the second letter returned to the sender. In January Patrick McGowan, 1/327 B 9/67-



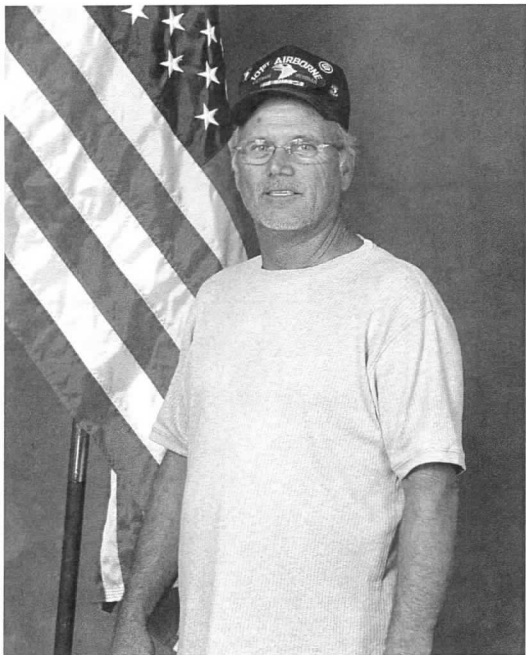
9/68, also had a renewal notice do a tour to and from Viet Nam. Please note the return envelope has been redesigned to pull "in Viet Nam" from the end of the line so scanners will not pick it up easily.

As the result of a mailing to all who had subscribed and dropped their subscriptions, we have about 46 returned subscribers. **Welcome Back!**

The 2013 Cobra Lake Reunion, near Crossville, Tennessee, at the home of Kenneth F. Ihle, 1/327 C 7/65-7/66, will be June 21st and 22nd, 2013. Although the reunion is primarily for the veterans of Company C 1/327, Screaming Eagle veterans from other units join the Cold Steel Cobra vets for this very meaningful gathering. For more information contact Ken Ihle at P.O. Box 414, Crossville, TN 38557, (423) 881-4346.

This artwork is by Raymond Brown who I have not been able to locate. Most of the artwork used in past magazines is his work.





Boyd McWilliams, 2/502 C 11/65-12/66

This copy of The Screaming Eagle was sent by Boyd McWilliams, 2/502 C 11/65-12/66. I had previously used some material about Operation Hawthorne printed in this issue. The names, units and dates that follow are those who are in the magazine database. Those with nothing before their name are subscribers; '*' dropped subscribers, '**' never subscribed and '***' unable to contact. I have been trying to find Arthur Barnett, my Assistant Information Officer for years without success. Many of those mentioned were subscribers and have died. I was surprised by the number of dropped subscribers. Ivan Worrell, Editor.

Page 2, VIETNAM REPORT, **Walter R. (Ron) Brown, 2/502 A 66-67. **Page 3, VIETNAM ACTIVITIES IN PHOTOS**, *LTG (R) Henry E. (Hank) Emerson, CO 2/502 10/65-9/66; CSM(R) Robert A. Young, HHC CSM 6/66-6/67; Jimmy L. Williams, 326 ENGR A 7/65-10/66. **Page 5, OPERATION JOHN PAUL JONES**, **LTC(R) Lewis Higinbotham, Tiger Force CO 5/66. **ACTION OF THE BATTALIONS, Page 6, The 2/502d**: *LTG (R) Henry E. (Hank) Emerson, CO 2/502 10/65-9/66; *Michael McFadden, 2/502 A 6/66-6/67; **Lucius V. Reeves, 2/502 B 63-66. **PHOTOS Page 7**, ***Clive Rose, 1/327 HHQ Tiger Force 66 (bad address). **Page 8, THE CHAPLAIN**, *Chaplain(COL-R) Curtis R. Bowers, 1/327 HQ 7/65-6/66. **LETTERS, Page 10**, *Seth F. Hudgins, Jr., 2/17 CAV A 8/65-9/66; *Todd W. Lang, 1/327 C 6/66-6/67; Royce McCreary, 2/320 A BTRY 12/65-12/66; *Kenneth M. Roberts, 1/327 HHC 2/64-9/65; Raymond T. (Rocky) Ryan, 1/327 A 7/64-11/66 (WIA 65). **Page 11**, *LTC(R) Theodore J. (Ted) Mortensen, 2/327 A 8/64-8/66; **COL(R) Robert A. Turner, 1st Bde 65-66; COL (R) Gerard Landry, 2/502 A 7/64-7/66; *W. Braden Wesley, 2/502 HHC 9/65-7/66.

The SCREAMING EAGLE

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NOVEMBER - DECEMBER, 1966

101st Airborne Division Association

VIETNAM REPORT

By Lt. Arthur D. Barnett, Asst. Information Officer, 1st Bde

During September, the "Always First" Brigade found itself back in Tuy Hoa protecting the large rice harvest of Phu Yen Province. Wrapping up Operation John Paul Jones, which was started by the 2d Battalion, 327th Infantry in July, the Brigade immediately commenced Operation Seward. Operation John Paul Jones netted 209 enemy killed (body count), 34 killed in action (estimated), 11 NVA (North Vietnamese Army) captured, 29 Viet Cong captured and 384 Viet Cong suspects detained. The Screaming Eagles also captured 50 small arms, five crew served weapons, a 57mm recoilless rifle, 608 Chicom grenades and 78 pack animals (including fourteen horses).

Four General Officers visited the Brigade during September. General Dwight E. Beach, Commander of CINCUSARPAC, came to Tuy Hoa, accompanied by his J-3, Major General George I. Forsythe. General R. J. Lincoln also visited the Brigade Command Post. Lieutenant General (retired) Hamilton H. Howze marveled at the Brigade's activities during his visit.

A hearty "well done" goes to the men of the Brigade's forward APO. Handling more than two million dollars and over 100 tons of mail a year, the APO has also set up a mobile bank that changes MPC (Military Payment Certificates) to Piasters in downtown Tuy Hoa.

September saw a major reorganization take place at the Brigade's Base Camp in Phan Rang. The base camp was set up last December and the Screaming Eagles left on an operation in January and haven't been back since.

The new organization adds the equivalent of an additional rifle company to the combat strength and increases the Brigade's field operation capacity. A new company, Echo Company, was formed as part of the Support Battalion, which is commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Edmond Abood. The Replacement Company, commanded by Captain Ron Brown, will now handle all incoming and outgoing personnel, including those on R&R and Leave. It will continue its present mission of running the Proficiency (P) School, the Sniper School and the Squad Leaders Combat Reaction Course. General Willard Pearson, the Brigade Commander, states that, "Probably the biggest advantage of this reorganization is cutting down on the number of personnel in the rear detachments, thereby gaining us the equivalent of an additional reinforced rifle company in the foxholes to fight the enemy."

The President's Award was awarded to the 1st Brigade by the 101st Airborne Division Association for their contribution to the "Screaming Eagles" reputation as a fighting unit and the support they gave the association's membership drive. The original copy is on display in the Brigade museum in Phan Rang.

VIETNAM ACTIVITIES IN PHOTOS



Army C/S Gen. Harold K. Johnson presents the 2nd Oak Leaf Cluster to Lt. Col. Henry Emerson as Brig. Gen. Pearson looks on; Senior Army Sgt. Maj. Woolridge receives a trophy from Brig. Sgt. Maj. Robert A. Young; Lt. Col. William Madden assumes command of 2/320 Arty; Lt. Col. Edmond Abood receives the colors for Co E, Spt Cmd; school supplies from the Kirkland Friendship Club, Pittsburg, Kan., are distributed by the 2/320 Arty; PFC Jimmie Williams helps the Montagnards; the Medicine Show distributes clothing as a part of 101 civic action; PFC Stephen Gardner, A, 1/327, crosses a Montagnard bridge in Operation Beauregard; and a "tunnel rat" emerges before a large tunnel complex is destroyed in Operation Seward.

Sergeant John E. Somerindyke and Private First Class Clarence Meyer of A Company, 326th Engineer Battalion (Airborne) rescued an eight-year-old Vietnamese girl from a stream north of Tuy Hoa while on an operation. The quick action of these paratroopers made better relations possible with the Vietnamese people than any amount of money could.

The movement of military and civilian traffic along the “infamous” Highway 1 from Tuy Hoa to Tuy An is credited to the road clearing men of A Company, 326th Engineers. In two weeks of clearing operations they have uncovered more than forty Viet Cong mines. “It’s like a game sometimes,” says Lieutenant Lynwood (Moon) Mullens. “We remove the mines one day and ‘Charlie’ comes at night and puts others in the same place. Or maybe he skips a day and puts them somewhere else. So we have to clear the road each day.”

A Troop, 2d Squadron, 17th Cavalry, provides security against ambush for the Engineer work parties and escorts the convoys with help from the Brigade’s Military Police unit. A Troop matched a \$1.25 contribution they received from five young stateside ladies and purchased cokes for a local orphanage. Suzie and Mary Beth Close, Diane and Cathy Lepnarski and Malanie Kozuchouski raised the money by giving a play in their garage for the fighting soldiers in Vietnam to “show we do not forget about you.”

ACTIONS IN THE BATTALIONS

The 1/327th: Twice the elite “Tiger Force” went into the mountains southwest of Tuy Hoa and raided Viet Cong prisoner camps and liberated Vietnamese who had been held from two weeks to thirty months. The cry, “NUMBAH ONE—NUMBAH ONE,” was shouted as the prisoners realized that they were being freed from their Communist oppressors. In all, thirty-three Vietnamese were set free by the “Above the Rest” paratroopers.

Lieutenant Colonel Joseph E. Collins, former Brigade Executive Officer, has taken command of the battalion from Lieutenant Colonel Walter E. Meinzen who is rotating back to the states. Colonel Meinzen’s new job will be with R&D at the Pentagon.

The 2/327th: Experience is the best teacher and 1st Lieutenant Marvin Roberts used an actual battle as a scenario to train the members of the “Second to None” paratroopers in a combat attack course. Launching mortar barrages and fire team assaults using fire and movement against objectives, the course in the words of Private First Class Gary Boyd, “really sounds and looks like the real thing.” After the tired but spirited members of A Company finished the course, Lieutenant General John Hientges, Deputy Commander of Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, who observed the training, gave a brief critique and promptly ordered

OPERATION JOHN PAUL JONES



Capt. Lewis Higinbotham, 1/327, talks with a wounded VC; mortar crew, 2/327, on a fire mission; Recondos of the 2/502 land by sea; a gunship of the 10th Avn Bn supports while the troops offload; the Arty lends support with the heavy stuff while the Engrs clear the mines; Trp A, 2/17 Cav, guards the road, and the 501st Sig Platoon sets up a radio relay (South China Sea in background).

Lieutenant Roberts to let the troops take a swim in the South China Sea to cool off. The Battalion Commander, Colonel Joseph Wasco, said, "It's hot out here, but it's damn good training for my men."

The Civic Action team, led by Battalion S-5 Captain John Mele, combined with the Brigade S-5 to stage a "Medicine Show" for the Vietnamese people in the little hamlet of Ngan Son north of Tuy An while the Battalion was protecting the rice harvesters in that area. In addition to giving out clothing and dispensing medical treatment by Sp/4 Colin Minga, Headquarters Company Medic, Vietnamese movies were also shown to the villagers.

An immense tunnel complex was discovered by A Company that if laid out would measure about a mile. Engineers said it would take about five tons of conventional demolitions to destroy the complex complete with connecting entrances, airshafts and defense trenches. It was finally rendered useless by caving in the more than twenty entrances and about four times that number of air shafts and sealing gas inside the complex.

The 2/502d:

Lieutenant Colonel Henry (The Gunfighter) Emerson turned over the reins of "THE STRIKE FORCE" to Lieutenant Colonel Frank Dietrick, who was promptly dubbed "THE GUNSLINGER" by his new command. The Gunfighter heads for the Pentagon after a job well done.

A company located and overran an NVA base camp and training area resulting in six NVA killed in action (body count). They also captured three crew served weapons, five small arms, a large amount of grenades and ammunition, surgical kits, demolition material and various documents. Company Commander Captain James M. McFadden, on his second tour in Vietnam, stated that the enemy weapons were in the best condition of any he had seen.

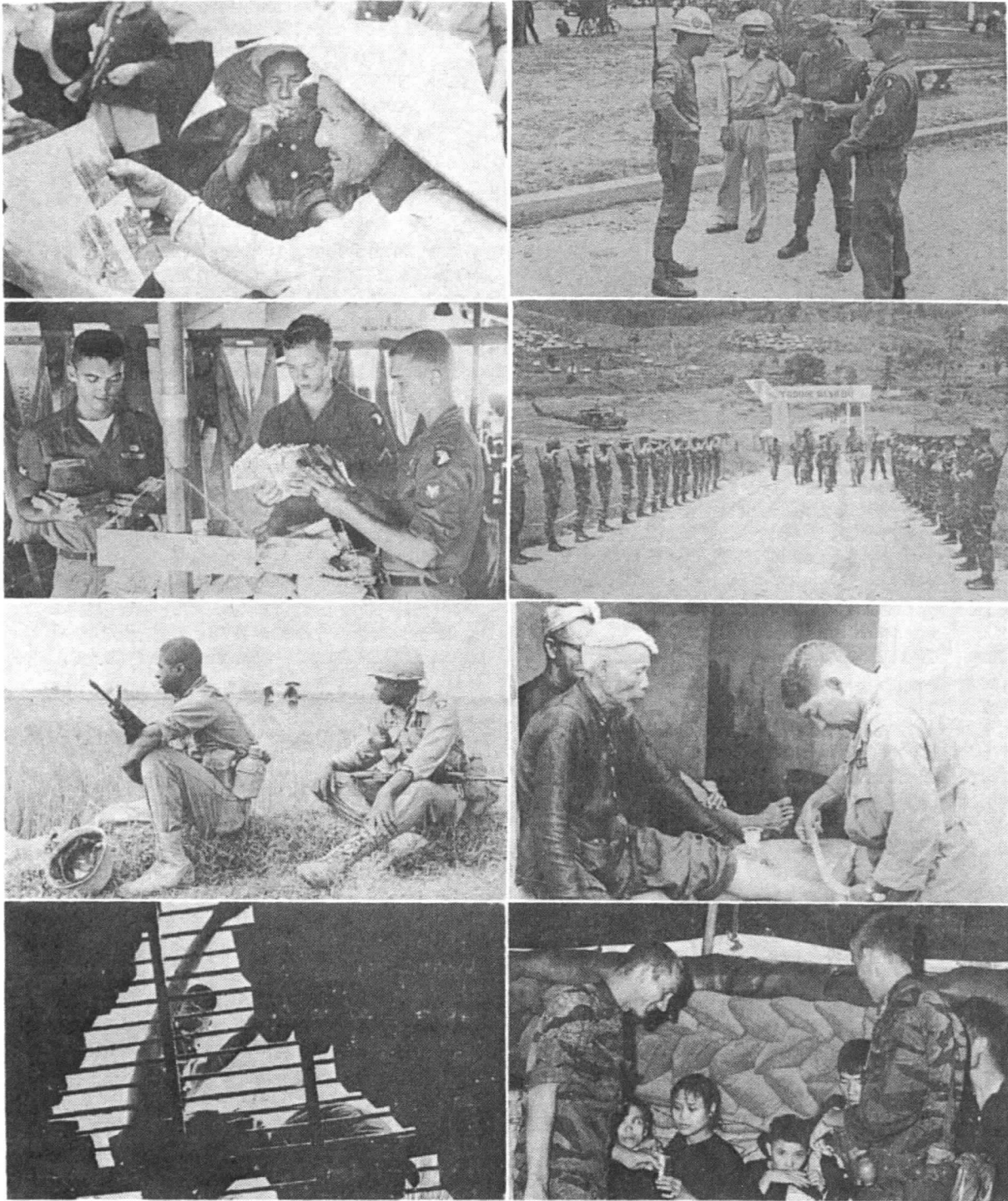
Captain Lucius Reeves, Headquarters Company Commandant, found himself leading the elite "Recondos" on a couple of missions when their leader was extracted to the rear on an emergency mission.

2/320th Arty:

The 2d Battalion, 320th Artillery, launched their Mobile Training Team Program to train members of the Civilian Irregular Defense Group, Regional Forces, Popular Forces, and Vietnamese Troops in artillery procedures to include operation of the Fire Direction Center, adjusting Indirect Fire Weapons, and setting up firing positions.

The battalion Forward Observers (Fos) also gave service practice to small unit commanders of the Brigade. After the students fired their mission, the FOs tried their hand, and gave added confidence that when the big guns open up, they will definitely be on target.

Lt. Col. Harry A. Buckley, Jr., is the new XO of the Brigade. Colonel Buckley joins us from the United States Military Academy at West Point where he served as an instructor.



101 Psy War informs the natives; a joint Vietnamese-American MP force; a salute to the mail clerks, SP4 Hubbard, PFC Micham, and SP4 Robinson; a reception by the Civilian Irregular Defense Grp (CDIG) at Dak Pek Special Forces Camp as they receive a banner from Gen. Pearson for help in Operation Hawthorne; PFCs Hughes and Bardos, A, 1/327, guard the rice harvesters in Operation Seward; SP5 Sisma, 2/327, aids the villagers; the 2/502 helps repair the Phu Hiep school; and "Tiger Force" Sgt. Rose and Lt. Carey feed Vietnamese civilians, part of 23 freed from a VC slave labor camp.

- 7 -

THE CHAPLAIN

A Chaplain is one that we always need,
And of his words we must always heed;
To mold ourselves as staunch good men,
But this must all come from within.

He came to our camp and ran down the men,
To get them to church so it can begin;
To pray for forgiveness and amend our way,
To do this automatically every day.

He helped the churches of Vietnam
By the contributions of each man;
This was fine—this was grand,
To help the churches of this land.

Chaplain Bowers we all knew,
A good one to our whole darn crew;
He'd come out in the rain or shine,
With the Bible in hand while standing in line.

"There aren't many days left for some of
you men,
You know you aren't free from sin;
To my church you all must come,
It's right over there—so please don't run!"

We knew the Chaplain was O.K.,
As he worked with us almost every day—
Climbing mountains and hills alike,
On every operation thro' swamp and dike.

He sweated and groaned with all the rest,
Not even taking a well-earned rest;
We didn't even turn a hair,
So to his church we all went there.

Dedicated to Chaplain Bowers, 1/327th Abn Inf, by Sgt. Bernie "Scuffer"
Gordon, Btry A, 2/320th Arty.

☆ ☆ ☆

LATE EAGLE FLASH FROM VIETNAM! — Co C, 1/327th Abn Infantry and Btry C, 2/320th Arty, have qualified for the MAXWELL D. TAYLOR AWARD by 100% membership in the Assn. This is the **second** award for Btry C which had previously received the award at Ft. Campbell. Pres. Harlan has forwarded our congratulations and certificates to these units.

And to our Vietnam members, a limited number of the July-August and September-October Screaming Eagle are available in the Assn office due to mail return. If you would like a copy, please write the Secretary. Available on a first-come basis.

And your Secretary wishes to thank the officers and men of the 1st Bde for the war trophy sent him by Gen. Pearson. And to Co A, 2/502, who captured it, our thanks and wishes for more of the same success. Your trophy is highly appreciated and prized.

During services we came under sniper fire,
So please don't call me a great big liar;
This is how it was and true,
And here is what we started to do.

The Chaplain said, "Men, sorry about that!
But don't run off and get your hat;
Just say your prayers—it won't be your last!"
But sent two men out on dispatch.

To get the snipers who disturbed us
Really took a lot of crust.
They found these two up in the trees,
And then fell down upon their knees.

"We hate to kill you!" they both said,
And so they shot them in the head—
And buried them beneath the ground,
While services kept with peace rebound.

Chaplain Bowers later said,
"Please do not disturb the dead;
The Lord was with us on this day,
Men, thanks! for your coming, now go your way!"

The Chaplain has returned Stateside,
We miss this man that was by our side—
Reassuring in words—Bible in hand,
A servant of God—who saved the band.

IN MEMORIUM

1st Lt. Harry Godman and all "ABU" Troopers of Co A, 1/327th Abn Infantry killed in action in Vietnam.

This memorium placed by Sgt. Bill Coleman who served with Co A in Vietnam and is now with Co B, 2/501st Abn Inf, Ft. Campbell, Ky., who contributed to the Pratt Memorial Fund in the name of his comrades. May their names ever be remembered.

Mrs. Gus Vurlumins, mother of Capt. Chris Vurlumis (1/327), lost in the battle of Tou Morong, would like to hear from members of "Tiger Force" who took part in the action. Her address: 6281 Girvin Dr., Oakland, Calif. 94611. You will be pleased that you did.



News and Comments From Our Letter Dept.

We were pleased to send the Screaming Eagle for PFC REYNALDO ALVARADO, B, 2/327 Inf—VN, to a stateside address as requested. We urge all Vietnam members to send us their stateside address upon return home so that delivery of our magazine will be possible. We have also corrected some dues cards which we are pleased to do. Some of the applications received from the field were almost impossible to read and we did the best we could, realizing that some errors would occur.



SP4 RONALD A. BORSCH, 101st MP Co., Ft. Campbell, Ky., got his July-August Screaming Eagle via Vietnam. Remind him to send in his address change. He is glad to be still with the 101 and help "Keep the Eagle Screaming."

S/SGT. ROBERT E. BROWNING, one of our old standbys from Ft. Campbell, is now with Co A, 326th Engr Bn, 1st Bde, and wrote to help straighten out some of the memberships in his unit. We appreciate the help. Some had forgotten they asked that their subscription be sent to their home address. Robert promised to keep "recruiting" as new men arrived. He did, sending in 32 new ones on 2 Sept., saying all looked forward to the magazine.



SSG ROBERT J. MOTT, 1st Plat, 501 Sig Bn, 1st Bde, wrote for information on the Assn. Bob, we hope all our communicators now know and that you have used the lines well.

LT. JAMES H. MURRY, JR., formerly of HHC, 2/327 Inf, VN, wrote from Box 537, Madigan Gen. Hosp., Ft. Lewis, Wash., for his Screaming Eagle which we were pleased to do. "May I extend my hearty appreciation for the excellent job done within the Eagle's news coverage in the July-August '66 issue."

LT. JOHN M. PLESE, HHC, 2/327 Inf, 1st Bde, VN, wrote to ask for a new membership card as he lost the letter during an operation before he could open it. John, it is our pleasure to serve you.

CHAPLAIN R. L. HEIM, HHC, 2/327 Inf, VN, wrote for membership applications and to ask if we would like some news of Chaplain's activities. To which, we say YES. We are proud of our chaplains and know the importance of their efforts for us.

S/SGT. BILL HUTCHERSON (326 Engrs) is now with HHC, S3 Sec, 1st Bde, and wrote: "I would like to thank you for your part in my President's Award and to tell you that the Assn is coming to mean more to me every day. Mrs. Miller sent me a Reunion program and I heard from 'Stub' Storeby. You have heard me blow the Engineers' horn. At this time, I would like to comment about the INFANTRYMAN, the guy that goes out and earns the CIB. I've seen him, Walt, over here, humping it day after day, seldom complaining, always facing death with every step, grabbing a bite to eat here and there, catching a few winks of sleep whenever he can, using a rock as a pillow, taking the place of the man before him who has just stepped on a mine, drying his socks, filling his canteen at an abandoned well, and always looking to close with the VC. These things, and many more, have caused him to earn my unending respect, though he will go a little wild and raise hell when you pull him off the line for a little R & R. Would also like to comment on the accounts of one Capt. Walter Miller that I read about in RWD, the company commander twice awarded the Silver Star and whose administrative actions as Secretary are typical of his combat actions—outstanding in my book. Please note my new address—although still assigned to A/326 E, I work and sleep in Bde Hqs. Sincerely, Bill."

Bill, we thank you for your comments on the INFANTRYMAN and for your Secretary who tries hard to carry the fight for recognition of the great job being done by all of you in Vietnam.

LT. SETH HUDGINS, JR., wrote about his membership taken out in VN, saying: "As an extremely junior member of the Screaming Eagles, I'd like to say that I'm damned proud to wear the Eagle on my right shoulder—and always will be." His address, 61 Fara Dr., Stamford, Conn. That's the spirit, Seth. And it will Keep the Eagle Screaming.



LT. JAMES W. LANG, who served with the 1/327 in VN, wrote for membership and jewelry, asking that we continue our coverage of the 1st Bde. He noted it "seems great to be back in the land of the big P.X., flush toilets, and round-eyed girls." Signed: Jim Lang, retired at age 25. We wrote Jim, betting him on the retirement bit.

ROYCE M. McCREARY, Btry A, 2/320th Arty, VN, wrote to thank us for the information on lapel pins for those enrolling in VN as published in the last issue promising to send us his stateside address upon his return to the states. "I want to thank you for your help and just say that the gang over here are still keeping the name of the 101st high with respect."



KEN ROBERTS who served with the 1/327 in VN has finished his Army service and will attend college while working as a Security Guard for North American Aviation. He wants to contact Southern Calif. Chapter as he has run into several ex-troopers who are not members of the Assn. Ken's mother has a Girl Scout troop which is in contact with the 1st Bde.

SP4 RAYMOND T. RYAN wrote us from Ward 5A, Valley Forge General Hospital, Phoenixville, Pa., where he has been confined since last Sept. after stepping on a land mine after 40 days of combat. "I am lucky that I am alive." We were pleased to send him The Screaming Eagle and to wish him well.

MAJ. TED MORTENSON, formerly of the 1st Bde, got his Screaming Eagle via Vietnam at his new address, 582-C Benedict Rd., West Point, N. Y., his new assignment. Ted rotated in June and in July some of the 1st Bde men had a "BASH" at Capt. Bob Turner's in Cornwall, N. Y. "Many stories were retold of events in Vietnam by the veterans of ELTINGE. We also celebrated the promotion of Maj. Jerry Lansdry (A 2/502). Keep the news coming, especially about the 1st Bde." Note Ted's promotion and our congratulations.



SP4 JOHN J. MUNSEY sent his new address of Co A, Spt Bn (Det 1), 1st Bde, noting: "I have only been a member a short time but I enjoy the Association very much and hope to attend a Reunion in the near future." John was with A, 1/327 VN.



We had a nice letter of inquiry from MR. AND MRS. THOMAS J. MURPHY, 4284 49th Ave. S., St. Petersburg, Fla., inquiring for accounts of Operation Hawthorne. Their son, Mike, was killed in action as a mem-

ber of the 3d Platoon, Co C, 2/502 Abn Inf, under Capt. Carpenter. The family had received letters from Capt. Carpenter, from Pfc Larry Mylin, Co A, and Lt. Col. Emerson, for which they were deeply appreciative. Mike had joined the Association and so they received the Screaming Eagle with Warren Bosworth's story in it. Larry's letter told of Mike's death in an attempt to recover the dead and wounded near the close of the action. Mike was his friend and he felt the loss that combat men feel for their own. He closed with "Mike died in the defense of our great country. A country he, himself, chose to serve. He served it well. May God bless you and comfort you during this period of grief. And may He let Mike's soul rest in peace." AMEN!



PFC MICHAEL T. MURPHY



LATE NEWS ITEMS:

Brig. Gen. J. S. Timothy, former CO, 1st Bde, Vietnam, has been named as Assistant Commandant, U. S. Army Infantry School, Ft. Benning, Ga. Also Capt. Walter Wesley (2/502 VN) has been assigned to the Operations Dept, Leadership Committee, U. S. Army Infantry School.

And to the parents of those who have lost loved ones in Vietnam, we send our sympathy and our desire to serve you and the memory of your lost one in any way that we can. Sincerest Season's Greetings to you.



New Subscribers

December 6, 2012
through March 4, 2013

MSG(R) Estevan (Chico) Alvarado
2/502 B 7/65-2/66 - 10/13
5315 Pace Dr.
Paducah, KY 42001

George R. Bassett
2/502 B 7/65-5/66 - 10/14
38 Wint Road
Sweden, ME 04040-5206

S/P4 Victor Belardo
1/501 A 9/71-4/72 - 7/13
P.O. Box 5032
King's Hill, St. Croix, VI 00851-2201

Kenny Godwin
2/502 A 67-69 - 10/13
12804 S 4090 Rd.
Oologah, OK 74053

COL(R) Phillip W. Mock
2/502 64-66 - 10/13
3 Creek Bank Drive
Mechanicsburg, PA 17050

LTC(R) Gerald N. Nakashima
1/327 HHC 2/64-6/66 - 10/14
3002 Jarvis Avenue
San Jose, CA 95118-1049

Hiroyuki "Chris" Taga
2/502 HHC 9/66-4/68 - 10/13
20357 Madison St.
Torrance, CA 90503-2534

Renewals

December 6, 2012
through March 4, 2013

SGT(R) Billy Joe Anderson
2/502 D 68 - 7/14
521 W. Euclid
P.O. Box 641
Waukomis, OK 73773-0641

Richard "Rick" Anderson \$
HHC ADMIN 7/65-12/65 - 10/14
9436 NE 138th St.
Kirkland, WA 98034-1822

CSM(R) Peter Bacerra
2/327 HQ 5/66-5/67 - 1/14
7164 Paprika Lane
Columbus, GA 31909-2607

Beldon Baker, Jr.
2/17 CAV A 12/63-4/66 - 1/14
3804 Nassau Circle
Hopkinsville, KY 42240-5342

Edward "Bill" Barker
2/320 FA HHB 8/67-11/68 - 10/13
6405 Acorn Blvd.
Punta Gorda, FL 33982-2140

Russell Barron
2/327 HHQ 8/67-10/68 - 10/13
14 Fairview Ave.
Dunkirk, NY 14048-3515

Al (Thomas A.) Bateman
2/502 HHC 9/66-10/67 - 1/14
205 Walnut Ave.
Hamlet, NC 28345

LTC(R) Charles L. Beegle
2/327 C 1/66-1/67 - 10/13
12302 Greenlea Chase West
Oklahoma City, OK 73170-6012

Jerry L. Bell \$
2/327 C 7/65-6/66 - 4/14
370 Moore Road
Savannah, TN 38372-5125

Joseph Bielski
2/17 CAV A 6/66-6/67&11/67-11/68 - 1/14
180 Hobbs Landing Rd.
Elizabeth, NC 27909-9109

John E. Boeddeker \$
1/327 B 9/66-9/67 - 1/14
800 Ridge Pl
Falls Church, VA 22046-3630

Dennis R. Boland
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17 October 66

By Lieutenant Arthur D. Barnett

“101ST SPEARHEADS RECOVERY OPERATIONS ON C-130”

TUY HOA, VIETNAM (101ST-IO) – Paratroopers from two platoons of “A” Company, 2nd Battalion, 327th Infantry led an Allied Interservice Task Force in recovery operations of a downed Air Force C-130 “Hercules” cargo plane Tuesday in the mountains northeast of Phan Rang.

Landing by helicopter, the 101st troopers moved overland through the treacherous jungle terrain to the crash site. Task Force Eagle, commanded by Major Jerry C. Scott, Operations Officer, Support Battalion, 101st Airborne Division, was composed of elements of the 16th Vietnamese Regional Force Company, a company from the Republic of Korea Capital Division, the 14th Munitions Maintenance Squadron, United States Air Force, A Battery, 5th Battalion, 27th Artillery, the 39th Advisory Team Military Assistance Command Vietnam and Engineers from Company A, 326th Engineer Battalion. Air-rescue operations were performed by the 12th Detachment, 38th Air Rescue Service and the Blue Star Platoon of the 48th Aviation Company.

After four hours of torturous marching in the dense jungle, the “Screaming Eagles” came upon the wreckage site. While the Air Force MMS Team checked the wreckage for booby traps. The engineer work party immediately started to clear a landing zone so Air Force Investigators could be brought in to determine the cause of the crash. There were no survivors of the aircraft, which carried a crew of five and no passengers. The wreckage of the plane, which had been missing over a week, was spread over a wide area on the side of a mountain that required the use of ropes to get down.

Looks of awe and grief could be seen on the faces of the paratrooper combat veterans as they looked at the scattered ruins of the plane – awe, because so little was left of the huge craft – grief, for even these battle-scared soldiers could feel compassion for the men who went down with their plane.

Although no enemy contact was made, it was constantly expected for many signs were spotted on the way to the crash site and this was the first time Allied units had operated in this particular

area. First Lieutenant Mark T. Skarstedt of Tarzana, California said that the terrain was ideally suited for enemy ambushes and he had his 2nd platoon of A Company ready and alert as they moved at the point of the Task Force. Staff Sergeant LeRoy V. Eutsey, 1st Platoon Leader from Detroit, Michigan provided rear security and secured the landing zone.

Weather conditions prohibited bringing the 1st Brigade troopers back before dark and they spent the night near the landing zone about 300 yards from the crash site. Lifted out by helicopter the next morning, the troops returned to the base camp at Phan Rang and prepared to go back forward and continue their mission of protecting the rice harvest in the Tuy Hoa area.

Credit for the smooth operation must go to all of the participating elements, which proves again that the Allied Forces working together can accomplish any mission, anytime, anywhere.

Public Information Office
101st Airborne Division & Fort Campbell
Fort Campbell, Kentucky
April 19, 1966

TUY HOA, VIETNAM (Delayed) - Since the “Screaming Eagles” have been in Vietnam, A Troop of the 17th Cavalry’s 2d Squadron has had precious little time for riding the roads.

On every operation of the 101st Airborne, to which A Troop is assigned, it has left the road, and traveled through the jungle on foot, doing the same job as an Infantry rifle company.

In October of 1965, A Troop was made a rifle company and then in December reclassified a Cavalry unit again. But their work as Infantry didn’t change.

The 1st Brigade of the 101st, this month, has again made the Cavalry Troop a provisional rifle company. But the troopers are wondering if the orders aren’t just a wee but late.

-30-



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Cost is \$15.00 per copy postpaid. See the order form on page 34.



This edition of *The Diplomat and Warrior* was sent to me by CPT Barry Hana, HQ-PIO 3/67-3/68. It was processed using a copy from his unit newspaper collection, which is bound in book form. Barry was the Officer in Charge of the paper. Those mentioned in this paper, who are in the First Brigade (S) database, are listed below.

Page 1, 2/327 Company Takes Heavily Defended Hill, story by SP4 William P. Singley, BDE HQ PIO 67. *COL(R) Fred J. Hillyard, 2/327 HQ & C 6/66-6/67. **Point Men Alert 1/327 Company To VC Ambush**, *William L. Culbertson, 1/327 B 7/66-7/67. Continued on page 2) PSG Ray C. Utley 1/327 B 7/66-7/67.

Page 2, 50 Tons of Rice Captured by Strike Force Company, Story and picture by SP4 William P. Singley, BDE HQ PIO 67. **Lucius V. Reeves, 2/502 B 63-66. **'Vietnam Odyssey' Yearbook On Sale Through 101st Abn Div Association**, Vietnam Odyssey can now be purchased from the publisher of this magazine. See order form on page 34. **Poor Timing By VC Terrorists Saves Two In Civil Affairs Jeep**, Photo by Michael A. Willey, BRIGADE PIO 9/66-10/67.

Page 3, Valuable Intelligence Gained By Daring Raid On Village, **Dan McIsac, unit & dates ?, ***Clayton Wentworth, 1/327 dates ??? (in database with no mailing address). (Note: the story is juxtaposed. Barry Hana's correction marks will help put it in order.) **Photo, PROBING FOR MINES**, ***Dan S. Stroebel, BDE HQ PIO dates?? (bad address). **Snake Does 'Belly Dance' as Trooper Watches**, **Dennis Stout, 1/327 9/66-67.

Page 4, SCREAMING EAGLE HONOR ROLL, Bronze Star Medal With "V" Device, **Joe Walker unit & dates ?, ***Lloyd Angwell, 2/327 dates ?? (bad address), LTC(R) John J. Dorsey, 2/327 A 6/66-5/67, Eljio Navarro 2/502 A 2/66-2/67. **Bronze Star Medal**, ***Thomas K. Bennett, unit & dates ? (bad address), ***1SG E-8(R) Ricardo Enriques, 1/327 A 66-68 (bad address), Roger M. John, 1/327 C 7/67-12/68, *Daniel K. Cheney, 326 MED SPT 7/66-7/67, *CW2(R) Charles F. Miller, AES DET C 5/66-5/67.

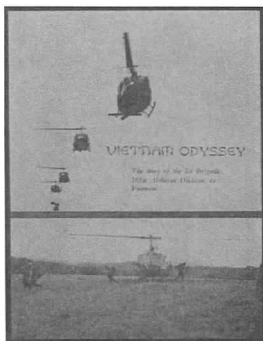
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VIETNAM ODYSSEY, The First Year is available for ALWAYS FIRST BRIGADE veterans.

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The book was edited by 1LT Charles J. Apodaca. The writing and layout was done by SGT Robert F. Barry with sketches and art by SGT Robert Finney and PFC Raymond Brown. Photographs were by SGT Bernardo Mangaboyat, SP4 Richard Houghton, SP4 Oddvar Breiland and SGT Jack Baird. PFC Robert B. Gray furnished special mechanical assistance. Frank Faulkner and Steven Van Meter, who served with the brigade for the first six



months in Viet Nam, provided many of the photographs.

VIETNAM ODYSSEY is a 108 page 8.5 by 11 inch format, soft cover, with four pages of color photos. The layout is excellent, the photos, sketch art and text were produced by members of the 1st Brigade who were part of the history that is recorded.

The manuscript was completed in Viet Nam and sent to the 101st Airborne Division Association for publication.

This third printing of VIETNAM ODYSSEY is now in short supply and will probably never be printed, in quantity, again.

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2/327 Company Takes Heavily Defended Hill

by SP4 William P. Singley

DUC PHO — Thirteen miles west of here is a hill. More than once paratroopers of the 101st Airborne were fired on from it.

Company C of the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry led by Captain Fred Hill (Airborne), 327th Falls City, Neb., got the assignment: seize the hill.

The 3d and 4th platoons started up. Minutes later, enemy fire came from a heavily fortified position.

Private First Class Joaquin Robledo, San Jose, Calif., was hit in the chest by an M-79 round that failed to explode.

"He continued fighting," said Private First Class David Durante, San Benito, Tex. "We couldn't keep him down."

The platoon spread out, using basic fire and maneuver tactics to get up the hill. As one element advanced, another provided cover fire. Then the elements would switch, one advancing, the other firing.

The battle lasted all day. Private First Class Edward G. Berry, York, Pa., was one of the first to reach the top of the hill. Specialist 4 Charles Jenkins, Fort Royal, Va., was another. They zeroed in on an enemy bunker and cleaned it out.

Private First Class Raymond Merz, Chamez, New Mex., fought all day after being shot in the foot.

The hill became the property of Company C late in the day. It had served as a VC battalion headquarters and the enemy commander lay dead. Twenty more bodies filled the tunnels and bunkers. Weapons, food and ammunition also were captured.

"A lot of us were lucky today," reflected Staff Sergeant David E. Sirois, Skowhegan, Maine.

No paratroopers were killed. Only seven were wounded.

The paratroopers relaxed. The hill was taken.



AND HE DOES—It might have been luck, but Sergeant Ramon Olivas, Fresno, Calif., doesn't think so. A squad leader with Company C of the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry of the 101st Airborne, Sergeant Olivas says he can survive the shrapnel in his leg. His helmet and heavenly protection diverted the "frag with my name on it."
 (US Army Photo by SP4 Daniel Stroebel)

Malheur II

Heavy Contact Made As Opn Continues

SAIGON — Paratroopers of the 1st Brigade pressed on with Operation Malheur II in heavy action today near Duc Pho in Quang Ngai Province.

The Screaming Eagles fought the enemy in dense jungles and on the floor of a valley west of Duc Pho, killing 12 communists, detaining 51 persons for interrogation and destroying 180 bunkers.

Brigade paratroopers have thus far killed 138 Viet Cong and captured 47 individual and three crew-served weapons in the 11-day operation. One hundred forty-six air strikes and 30 naval gun fire missions have been called in support of the operation.

A company engaged an estimated enemy platoon Friday morning 11 miles south-southwest of Quang Ngai City. A brief fire-fight ensued and the enemy broke contact leaving eight VC dead.

That afternoon the company gained contact with an estimated enemy battalion just to the northwest of the first engagement. Another company of paratroopers reinforced and artillery fire, armed gunships and air strikes were called in on the enemy. Communist casualties were unknown.

Contact has been heavy since the operation started. During one day's action Screaming Eagles killed 21 and found graves containing 14 enemy bodies.

Bde Mechanics Break Up True Love Between Snake And Jeep's Wiring

DUC PHO—The men in the motor pool of Headquarters Company, 1st Brigade prevented a romance between a myopic snake and electric wiring.

Specialist 4 Paul A. Kelsey, Walpole, Maine, opened the hood of his jeep and reached in to check the air filter. A sudden movement in the wiring leading to blackout lights startled him. Wires, he thought, don't move.

A vicious Bamboo Viper

was curled around the wires.

"I called the motor sergeant and told him I had a second echelon job that needed a mechanic's attention," said Kelsey.

Staff Sergeant Jack L. Mitchell, McClure, Ohio came over and saw the snake. Sergeant Mitchell called Specialist 4 Jerry E. Van Norstrom, Barberton, Ohio whose least favorite animal is a snake and told him, "There's a repair job here that needs

immediate attention."

The soldiers chased the snake out of the jeep with sticks. A swift stroke with a board by Van Norstrom finished the viper.

Kelsey thinks the snake crawled underneath the hood to avoid the rain. Inside the snake thought he (or was it a she) had found a mate.

The potential romance ended when Kelsey opened the hood.

Point Men Alert 1/327 Company To VC Ambush

DUC PHO — First Lieutenant Lawrence J. Wissell, Lake Geneva, Wisc., scouted ahead of his company in the jungles near here during Operation Malheur II.

Suddenly he stopped, surveying the trail and area ahead. He turned to his fire support, machine gunner Specialist 4 John Twele, Baltimore.

"This looks like a good spot for a VC ambush," he said. "Let's alert the com-

pany." The two paratroopers of the 101st Airborne backtracked to their waiting comrades.

Minutes later, Company B of the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry moved up the hill—alerted. Twenty yards beyond Lieutenant Wissell's earlier survey site, the Viet Cong opened up.

Initially the paratroopers were pinned down, but Specialist Twele charged to a forward position to return

the fire. Both his ammunition bearers were wounded but Twele made the cover of a large rock.

"I fired 300 rounds and knocked one VC out of a tree," Twele said. Then he ran out of ammunition. Answering his resupply call was Lieutenant Wissell who tossed ammunition to Twele just in time.

A VC charged Twele's position with grenades. The first grenade exploded near

the rock, showering shrapnel, some striking Twele in the head. Still conscious, Twele reloaded. As the enemy soldier came across the rock Twele opened fire. Blood from the VC splattered on Twele's gun.

Providing cover fire for the platoons as they maneuvered, Twele again ran out of ammunition and dropped back for more. Specialist 4 Joseph Cassidy, Philadelphia, became an ammo-bearer and

the two rushed back to the forward position and zeroed in on the enemy.

Meanwhile, part of the 50-man VC force tried to encircle Company B. A grenade landed between Specialist 4 William L. Culbertson, Bond, Ore., and Platoon Sergeant Charles Walker, Columbus, Ga. It didn't explode.

"All we could do was look

(Ambush, p. 2, Col. 3)

50 Tons Of Rice Captured By Strike Force Company



MOUNTAIN OF RICE—Paratroopers of the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry take a break atop a stack of rice bags newly filled. The 101st Airborne troopers captured 50 tons of enemy rice, bagged and transported it to a nearby refugee camp. (US Army Photo by SP4 William Singley)

by SP4 William P. Singley

DUC PHO—For 25 days paratroopers of the 101st Airborne searched out and destroyed the enemy in Operation Malheur. On the final day of operation the strong backs of a paratroop company also deprived the Viet Cong of sorely needed supplies — 50 tons of rice.

Company B of the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry was moving back to a landing zone. In the morning they were to be lifted back to the Screaming Eagle base camp.

The 2d Platoon found an overgrown trail in their march back to the LZ. Company Commander Captain Lucius V. Reeves, Miami, had

warned his men to check the trails. "When you find overgrown trails like these they lead to something or somebody," he said.

"We thought the VC were there," said Private First Class Sonny Montoya, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Second Lieutenant David V. Booth, El Granada, Calif., and his men investigated the trail. The "something" this time was 50 tons of rice.

Dispersed on the steep jungle hillside, the 2d Platoon found three large huts filled rafter-high with rice. The next morning the 3d Platoon discovered two more storage bins while moving toward the LZ.

Instead of being extracted

back to the base camp that morning, the paratroopers bagged the rice and loaded it on helicopters.

"The men knew the job had to be done," said Platoon Sergeant George L. Winder, Philadelphia. "They went right to work."

A conveyor belt of paratroopers lined the jungle trails to move the rice to the LZ. From there helicopters carried it to MACV Headquarters at Duc Pho.

Later that day the men of Company B came out of the field. Tired, they were to get their first rest in 26 days. But their extra day's efforts wiped out a Viet Cong rice cache and helped grateful Vietnamese refugees.

Poor Timing By VC Terrorists Saves Two In Civil Affairs Jeep

DUC PHO—Poor timing by a pair of VC terrorists saved a Vietnamese official and an Army captain attached to the 101st Airborne recently on a rural road near here.

By prematurely detonating an explosive charge, the VC attempt to kill Village Chief Nguyen Anh, and Captain Troy Collins failed. The charge exploded five feet in front of their jeep, the concussion blowing out the windshield and the blast leaving a crater 15 feet in diameter.

"I saw the explosion starting," said Captain Collins of the 41st Civil Affairs Company. "You could see the road begin to bulge. Then there was black smoke everywhere and dirt and debris falling on us."

The two terrorists were

seen fleeing and disappeared into the jungle before a military police reaction force arrived.

The jeep carrying the two was following a small convoy of trucks transporting refugees to a nearby resettlement camp.

Captain Collins suffered cuts on his hand and elbow

from debris. The two Vietnamese escaped injury.

Only last week Captain Collins had another close escape when he, Captain Peter R. Bankson, subsector advisor and Duc Pho District Chief Ho Van Luyen discovered a booby-trapped 155mm shell while in the "killing zone" of the artillery round.

'Vietnam Odyssey'

Yearbook On Sale Through 101st Abn Div Association

The 101st Airborne Division Association has published a 92-page yearbook that chronicles the history of the 1st Brigade in Vietnam from July 29, 1965 to July 29, 1966.

Containing color and black and white photos and summaries of the major campaigns of the "Nomads of Vietnam", the book is avail-

able by mail from the association by addressing requests to Post Office Box 454, Greenville, Texas 75402.

The booklet, entitled "Vietnam Odyssey," continues a tradition that started with the publishing of the World War II history of the division, "Rendezvous With Destiny."

DIPLOMAT and WARRIOR

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

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

- CG BG S. H. Matheson
- IO MAJ Billy E. Spangler
- OIC 2LT Barry Hana
- EDITOR SSG Mike Mangiameli

Ambush, Cont'd P. 1

at it," said Walker. A second grenade did go off. Both men were wounded but continued to fight.

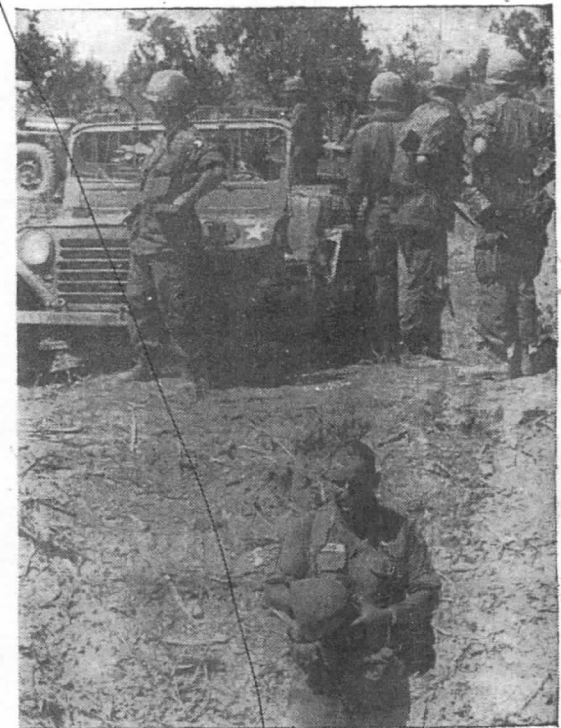
The 1st Platoon of Company B, held in reserve, came to the rescue.

"It took us 10 minutes to get there," said Platoon Sergeant Ray C. Utley, Dillon, S.C.

"The VC thought they had us until the first platoon came in like the U.S. Cavalry chasing Indians," added a relieved Sergeant Walker.

As the paratroopers mopped up a fleeing VC force, they found 12 enemy dead. One was a VC company commander.

Lieutenant Wissell and machine gunner Tyele took a break. A hard day's work was over.



EMPTY GRAVE—Captain Troy Collins of the 41st Civil Affairs Company and attached to the 101st Airborne stands in the middle of a crater created by an explosive charge meant to kill him and two Vietnamese civilians. Captain Collins was supervising the relocation of refugees near the Screaming Eagles' forward base camp here. (US Army Photo by PFC M. A. Willey)

Valuable Intelligence Gained By Daring Raid On Village

DUC PHO — Lieutenant Daniel McIsac, Boston, spread a map on the ground and ran his finger along the trace of the Song Ve Valley. His finger stopped at the location of a small village. "This," he said, "is our target."

In the following minutes, Lieutenant McIsac explained the mission to members of the 101st Airborne's Long Range Reconnaissance Platoon (LRRP), an elite group of highly trained paratroopers who conduct operations deep in Viet Cong strongholds.

Intelligence indicated a high level Viet Cong political officer was using the river village as a base of operations. This particular VC had been an important officer in charge of French prisoners of war from 1943 to 1953, and since 1954 has concentrated his efforts toward political indoctrination of residents in the Song Ve Valley.

The mission was to make a quick raid on the village and secure as many detainees as possible, hopefully the prominent VC political officer among them.

The LRRP had studied photographs of the village. They knew every narrow street, thatch-roofed hut, and rice paddy. Each member of

the 33-man patrol knew exactly what he was going to do in the lightning-quick raid.

Minutes before dusk, six helicopters came in tree-top high, catching the VC controlled village by surprise. Black clad figures carrying weapons ran from the village into the surrounding jungle as they realized their village was the object of the raid.

The next day, the intelligence report revealed the Viet Cong political indoctrination officer was among the detainees. Another man was a VC informer. Among the others was a Vietnamese woman who was being detained in the village by the VC after she arrived to visit relatives. She told of being forced to attend Viet Cong political indoctrination classes. Later, military authorities learned the woman was engaged to a soldier serving with the Army of the Republic of Vietnam and flew her to her fiancé. The remaining detainees were returned to the safety of a Vietnamese 'new-life' hamlet.

In 12 minutes, valuable intelligence was produced for future operations. The interrogation and document analysis confirmed the accuracy of earlier data. However, the most significant factor is still

producing benefits for the Screaming Eagles: the apprehension of the VC political leader: indoctrination has reduced roar in the VC controlled village and each day refugees are coming out of the valley, asking the paratroopers for safety and freedom.

Seconds later the LRRP's were on the ground, searching the huts and farmyards for potential detainees. The shock of the raid apparently confused the enemy. Resistance was light, initially, then increased as the Viet Cong realized what was happening.

"It was a difficult mission," explained Master Sergeant Lloyd Smith, Fayetteville, N.C., "we couldn't fire unless we were fired upon."

"One VC ran out of his hut carrying a carbine and web gear," said Sergeant James Johnson, Manister, Mich. He and Specialist 4 Clayton Wentworth, Pottstown, Pa., cut him down with a volley from the 'chopper' door.

As the paratroopers rounded up detainees, the Viet Cong in the hills began firing into the village. "I could see the muzzle flashes in a draw," said Sergeant Ronald H. Weems, Chicago. He and Specialist 5 Virgil Pauls, Waverly, Tenn., poured machine gun fire into the enemy positions as the helicopters returned to pick up the patrol and their captives.

As the American machine-gun answered the distant enemy fire, the mission was near completion. The patrol, 15 detainees, a rucksack containing Chinese communist hand grenades, maps and documents were loaded aboard the hovering helicopters and extracted to the brigade intelligence and interrogation team.

"The mission was completed in 12 minutes," explained Lieutenant McIsac at debriefing. "Everything went according to plan."

'Gimme A Break, Snake'

Snake Does 'Belly Dance' As Trooper Watches

DUC PHO— Army procedures cover nearly every part of a soldier's conduct, but set no precedents for dealing with a snake who crawls on your stomach.

Specialist 4 Dennis L. Stout, Phoenix Ariz., an information specialist with the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry, had to improvise to meet the situation



WATER RESUPPLY — A paratrooper of Company A, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry, fills canteens for his squad during a break in action. (US Army Photo by SSG Mike Mangiameli)

Special R&R Price

Three Airlines Reduce Rates For Wives Flying To Hawaii

DUC PHO—Three major U.S. airlines will reduce travel rates for wives flying from California to Hawaii to meet husbands on R & R starting June 24.

The reduced fare is only applicable from the west coast to Hawaii. One round-trip ticket will cost \$165 plus tax, and will include a reserved seat and meals.

The Military Airlift Command (MAC) proposed the idea to Northwest, Pan American and United Airlines, and was accepted by them.

The ticket applies only to wives of servicemen serving in Vietnam on R & R to Honolulu. It is the responsibility of the husband to furnish his wife DD Form 1580 which will enable her

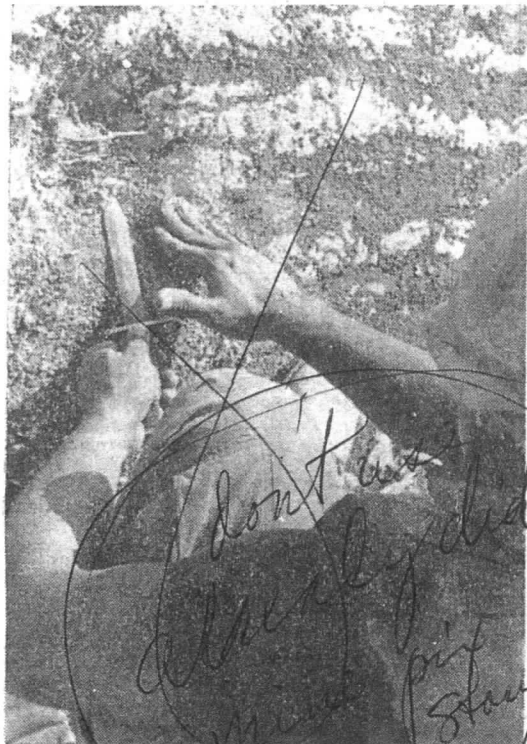
to buy the reduced rate ticket. She should have two: one for her to present upon purchasing the ticket and one for her own possession.

The present fare from the west coast is over \$200. When the new reduced rate goes into effect on June 24, it will be more than a 25 per cent reduction.

Eagles Lead Oregon In Olympic Fund

DUC PHO — Paratroopers of the 101st Airborne donated \$296.85 to the 1968 U.S. Olympic Fund here recently, edging its Task Force Oregon partners the 196th Inf. Bde. and the 3d Bde., 25th Inf. Div.

First Lieutenant Edward A. Euker, Caramel, Calif., served as project officer.



PROBING FOR MINES— During road clearing operations a prober searches cautiously for a mine hidden below the surface of the road. (US Army Photo by SP4 Daniel Stroebel)



COMMANDER'S CARE—Lieutenant Colonel Harry S. Buckley, Tacoma, Wash., commander of the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry visits one of his paratroopers at the Army hospital in Qui Nhon. PFC Donald Pryor, Newark, N.J., is recovering from leg wounds suffered in Operation Malheur II. (US Army Photo by SP4 Alva Tate)

VC Nurse Surrenders To Bde Psy War

DU C PHO—“We made contact,” said the radio operator back to the CP of the “o-deuce.” “It’s a VC hospital complex with plenty of Charlies.”

Lieutenant Colonel Harry S. Buckley, battalion commander from Tacoma, Wash., responded quickly. He called for the psychological warfare team commanded by First Lieutenant Cecil Holland, Orlando, Fla., and they were airlifted to the scene.

“There was no LZ,” said Lieutenant Holland, “so we circled and peppered the area with M-16 fire before going in.”

The helicopter couldn’t land, so the psy war team of the lieutenant, interpreter and loudspeaker bearer had to jump while the chopper hovered 20 feet above the ground. Holland and his interpreter hit hard, but safe. Specialist 4 James Salling,

Detroit, struck a tree stump on his leap into the tall elephant grass, suffering a broken collar bone. He was evacuated immediately.

To Lieutenant Holland fell the task of carrying both his and Salling’s loudspeakers.

Fifteen enemy were killed when the two-man psy war team arrived. One VC lay wounded nearby and paratroopers of Company A, 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry believed more enemy to be in an extensive system of escape tunnels.

The interpreter broadcast a standard surrender appeal, giving the enemy a choice between life and death.

The psy war team and other paratroopers waited. No one came out. In other actions Holland had used harsher appeals, playing upon fears of the VC. He decided this was the time for another.

A scout dog, excited by

the smell of the enemy and weapons fire, was growling nearby. A microphone was placed before the dog and a fierce growl reverberated off the rain-soaked jungle canopy and back to the jungle floor. Knowing the VC feared the dogs, Lieutenant Holland instructed the interpreter to say more dogs were coming and would seek them in their tunnel hideouts.

Minutes passed. Suddenly a faint “Dau Hang” (“I surrender”) was heard.

“Hold your fire,” yelled the psy war team leader to the paratroopers over the loudspeaker.

The “Dau Hang” grew louder and a VC nurse, wounded and with hands over her head, stepped from a bunker.

The paratroopers led her away and fed her. Later she broadcast an appeal to other VC in the area, but the paratroopers could find no others.

SCREAMING EAGLE HONOR ROLL

Bronze Star Medal With “V” Device (Posthumous)

Norris, Jerry A., SGT, Co. A, 1/327
Griffith, Willie R., SP4, Co. B, 2/502
Hudgens, John W., SP4, Co. B, 2/502
Olofson, Philip J., PFC, Co. B, 2/502
Cipriani, Alan B., SP4, Co. A, 1/327
Manning, Bruce K., PFC, Co. C, 1/327
Shelley, Michael O., PFC, Co. C, 1/327
Ballanger, Enoch A., PFC, Co. C, 1/327
Cherry, Charles E., SSG, Co. C, 1/327
Enos, Leonard A., SP4, Co. B, 1/327
Wells, Benjamin G., 2LT, Co. C, 1/327
Taylor, Calvin L., PFC, Co. B, 2/502
Thompson, Gregory M., PFC, Co. C, 2/327
Edmond, Coil Jr., PFC, Co. B, 2/502
Freund, William C., PFC, Co. B, 2/502
Le Bouef, Elton Jr., SGT, HHB, 320 Arty
Jamroz, Stanley M., SP4, Co. C, 2/502

Bronze Star Medal With “V” Device

Walker, Joe, SSG, Co. B, 1/327
Angwall, Lloyd M., SP4, HHC, 2/327
Dorsey, John J. Jr., 1LT, Co. A, 2/327
Collins, Joseph E., LTC, HHC, 1/327
Dietrich, Frank L., LTC, HHC, 2/502
Hanus, Jerry T., SSG, Co. A, 2/502
Davin, Paul H., 1LT, Co. A, 1/327
Navarro, Elijo, SP4, Co. A, 2/502
Bolcar, Andrew S., LTC, HHC, 2/320 Arty
Webb, Stanley O., PFC, Co. C, 1/327
Hansen, Jerome V., SP4, Co. A, 2/502
Hammack, Alan G., PFC, Co. B, 2/502

Bronze Star Medal (Posthumous)

Cerspach, Peter J. III, Co. B, 1/320
Bonny, Alan W., PFC, Co. C, 1/327
Kircher, Alfred G., SSG, Co. C, 1/327
Harding, Terry A., PFC, Co. C, 1/327
Drew, Thomas F., SGT, Co. A, 1/327
Bost, Michael J., PFC, 42d Inf Plat (SD)
Enos, Leonard A., SP4, Co. B, 1/327
Norris, Jerry A., SGT, Co. A, 1/327
Snow, Crawford, PFC, Co. A, 1/327
Cipriani, Alan B., SP4, Co. A, 1/327
Cherry, Charles E., SSG, Co. C, 1/327
Daily, Ronald C., SSG, Co. C, 1/327
Funk, Joe A. II, SP4, Co. C, 1/327
Butts, Lonnie R., SGT, HHC, 1/327
Shelley, Michael O., PFC, Co. C, 1/327
Rathbun, Gary A., SGT, 42d Inf Plat (SD)
Jolivet, Marfiew L., SP5, Co. C, 1/327
Manning, Bruce K., PFC, Co. C, 1/327

Bronze Star Medal

Mullins, Lynwood S., 1LT, Co. A, 326 Engr
Williams, Delmer B., 1SG, Co. C, 2/502
Bennett, Thomas K., PSG, Co. C, 2/502
Enriquez, Ricardo D., SGT, HHC, Bde
John, Roger M., CPT, HHC, Bde
Chihak, Raymond E., SP4, Co. C, 1/327
Ford, Jerry S., SP4, Btry A, 320 Arty
Chaney, Daniel K., MAJ, Co. D, Spt Bn
Graves, Scott A., CPT, HHD, Spt Bn
Helms, Jack C., CPT, HHC, 1/327
Moody, John W., CPT, Admin Co, Bde
Simpson, James Arthur, CPT, HHC, 2/327
Willis, William M., CPT, 18 MI
Wilson, Stephen M., CPT, Co. D, Spt Bn
Monroe, Eugene F., 1LT, Co. A, Spt Bn
Martin, Jackie Ray, WO, HHC, 2/327
McGee, Samuel E. III, WO, HHC, Bde
Miller Charles F., WO, Co. C, Spt Bn

Newsman Rescues Girl During 1/327 Battle

by Douglas Sapper as told to the 101st Airborne Information Office

(EDITOR'S NOTE: A six-year-old Montagnard girl was rescued near here by News Correspondent Douglas Sapper, free-lance representative for South China Morning Post, Hong Kong. Mr. Sapper, Mt. Vernon, Ill., is a former Special Forces sergeant who served in Vietnam during 1965-1966.)

DU C PHO—I was accompanying Company C, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry during Operation Malheur west of Duc Pho. The unit was pursuing a Viet Cong force when suddenly a fire-fight broke out as we

approached a Montagnard village.

During the height of the battle, I heard someone shout there was movement in the brush ahead of us. We expected to see a VC move into an opening. Suddenly, a sergeant yelled: “It’s a girl, it’s a girl.”

I had paused to give aid to a wounded paratrooper when I heard the sergeant shout. I looked up and about 75 meters away, I saw this little girl. She was pointing and yelling something I couldn’t understand. Bullets from the enemy filled the air around the child. I gave a quick yank on the tourniquet I had put on the wounded paratrooper’s leg

and ran out to grab the child.

When the fire-fight ended, we searched through the village for her parents. They were dead. The Viet Cong who survived pulled back into the jungle, dragging their wounded with them. There was no one in the village.

I couldn’t leave the child alone. She clung to me ever so tight, and continued babbling in a dialect I couldn’t understand. It was then I decided to take the child back to Saigon and find out what could be done for her.

She said very little as we flew out of the jungle, was even more quiet as the C-130 carried us to Saigon.

When we arrived, CBS News Correspondent John

Hart had heard about the girl from another CBS news team, and arrangements were made for a short film on the child.

On Walter Cronkite’s evening news program, he introduced “Mia” to his audience and explained how she was found. The story touched the hearts of many Americans who volunteered money to care for her.

“Mia” also touched the CBS staff in Saigon. They took her to 3d Field Hospital for a thorough examination. Doctors reported she suffered from anemia, malaria, possible tuberculosis, scabies, and worms.

No effort has been spared to take care of her. CBS has

established a fund for her education, a CBS correspondent has retained a Vietnamese lawyer hoping to adopt the child and a room in a prominent Saigon hotel has been converted into a nursery.

The last time I saw “Mia” she was a beautiful child. Her once matted, black hair shone from careful brushing. Her pallid skin has started to glow, and her once saddened, dark eyes now sparkle as she plays. It will be a while before she fully recovers from the effects of sparse jungle living.

The frightened little girl I carried out of the steaming jungle now smiles and laughs.

Dexter, Decatur, IL (Dist Svc Cross); **B Co, 2/502** - SSG Johnnie W. Faircloth, Cordele, GA (Silver Star); SP4 Joe L. Meek, Exeter, CA and SP4 Ernest L. Miller, Detroit, MI; **C Co, 2/502** - CPT Robert E. Rawls, Royal Oak, MI; SSG George E. Burchett, Bloomington, IL; SSG Roynald E. Taylor, Metter, GA; SP4 Frank Boynton, Columbus, GA; PFC Ernest K. Gerhardt, Modesto, CA; PFC Leroy Hicks, Newport, NJ; PFC Jerry D. Underwood, Louisville, KY and PFC Johnnie P. Winfrey, Bay City, TX; **C Btry, 2/320th Arty Rgt** - 2LT Edward H. Fox, Plainview, TX, Arty FO w/ C/2/502.

+ **WILLIAM EUGENE WALKER**, 1/327 HHC 6/67-4/69, 7133 Belfast Dr., Brownwood, TX 76801, (325) 784-6982 sent this note along with his subscription renewal. I am renewing my subscription (plus extra) for *The First Screaming Eagles in Viet Nam*. I always read the magazine from front to back. Sometimes it takes four or maybe five days. Thank you for your time and God Bless all of you for the job you are doing! If you happen to run across (CSM-Ret) Joseph M. Bossi – tell him I said hello and duck! I was with him a short time in Viet Nam.

Tim Olyphant - JUSTIFIED

+ **TIM SWAIN**, HHC S-2 65
111 E. Morningside Dr., Peoria, IL 61614-2131
work (309) 637-1700 home (309) 692-7301
timswain@peorialaw.com

Tim Swain, HHC S-2 65, wrote: We just finished watching seasons 2010 and 2011 of *JUSTIFIED* on DVD's from Amazon, featuring Bevan's (Bevan Olyphant, 1/327 7/65 – ELT) son as the U.S. Marshall "Ryland Givens." We have purchased 2012 and will do the same for successive years. It is the best series on TV. It is well done and a joy to watch in your living room.

We have become Timothy Olyphant fans. In fact, for the first time that I can remember seeing a TV Guide in our house, my wife, Avalyn had purchased the latest issue with Bevan's handsome son on the cover.

Just go to Amazon and order the DVD and you will have it in the next few days.

Hang tough and keep the faith.

Airborne!! Tim

2.23.13

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE

+ **JAMES W. GEARY**, SPT BN A 7/65-1/66, 216 Elm Drive, Upper Sandusky, OH 43351-1046, (419) 294-5739 wrote: Enclosed please find my advance renewal for the 1st BDE magazine. (This should take my subscription through April 2014.)

Also please note that the check is in the amount of \$30.00. I recall from one of the 2012 issues that you were considering the possibility of an increase to \$30 from \$25. I believe that an increase is more than justified and am planning to send at least \$30 every year whether or not you plan to follow through on the increase.

Hope all is well with you. Best wishes for a successful and happy 2013!

Airborne All The Way

+ **EDWARD S. BONK, JR.**, 2/327 B 7/65-6/66, 1800 Tomlinson Rd., Philadelphia, PA 19116-3850, (215) 464-2294 along with his subscription renewal sent the holy card below. I was on the General Leroy Eltinge and Cardinal Spellman gave this holy card to the 1st Brigade. I also got to kiss his ring at Ft. Campbell. I cleaned out my closet and thought you might be interested.



Commemorating
Catholic Trooper Society
104th Airborne Division
Mass
Celebrated By
His Eminence
Francis Cardinal Spellman
Fort Campbell, Kentucky
July 2, 1965

+ **JOSE S. LAGUANA**, 2/502 A 12/65-9/66, P.O. Box 21823, Barrigada, GU 96921-1823, (671) 653-5459 when renewing his subscription wrote: Thank you for your services to the First Screaming Eagles of Viet Nam. May God bless you and Happy New Year!

+ **LTC(R) FRANKLIN "LIN" HASKINS**, HHC 6/66-6/67, 4601 Gilling Ct., Virginia Beach, VA 23464-5829 wrote: Sorry I'm late with my renewal, but here it is. Thanks for the great job you are doing to keep us all connected. Your article, "Subscription Price Increased," in the last issue of the "Always First Brigade" indicates that the magazine only goes to about 650-700 of us. I was wondering just how many of us are still around? Is that information available?

Your articles are great, meaningful and bring back lots of memories – some good, some not so good. Keep up the good work – we all appreciate it.

By the way, Happy Birthday on your 85th. I've got a few more to go to catch up.

Hope to see you at our 50th Anniversary Commemoration.

Warm Regards, Lin Haskins, "Bugs and Gas" as Gen Matt would say

Editor's Note: Thank you for being a loyal subscriber. I have about 2,300 names in my database who are, as suspected to be, veterans of the Brigade (S).

+ **JOHN L. PATTEN**, 2/320 ARTY HQ 4/67-10/67, 600 Vine Street, Middletown, PA 17057-2263, (717) 944-4940 wrote, As always, it is a great day and an enjoyable reverie when "The First Screaming Eagle" journal arrives. The January 2013 edition covered the deployment of elements of the brigade from the Nha Trang area to Duc Pho in May 1967. As XO of the 320th Artillery Battalion I accompanied one battery of our guns on the voyage up the coast. I remember that the LST was built in St. Louis in 1942, so said the brass plaque on the wardroom wall, and was skippered by a Japanese contract captain. The evening of the voyage he invited some of us to the wardroom for Sake and, in conversation, told us, in a matter of fact way, that he had been a sailor all his life, including in the Japanese Navy, where he observed the 1938 US Navy maneuvers off San Diego and learned lessons that he put to use after December 1941. It was a rare experience for a paratrooper to be aboard that vessel when it raced for the beach and rode the bow wave high enough on the shore so that when the clamshell doors opened and the ramp was lowered we walked out on dry land. We don't do amphibious operations often. Subsequently, of course, the other elements of the Brigade moved north to be part of Task Force Oregon, named, incidentally, for MG Rosson who was from the state of Oregon.

The issue also carried articles on the change of command for my good friend Ed Abood taking over from Don Rosenblum. Ed and I later served in the Division when he replaced Col Rosenblum, again, as DISCOM Commander after Lam Son 719 and later when we were in the Pentagon in the Army, and, still later, the Joint Staff. Ed left us a few years back and the Army lost a great soldier; and the story of our Mess Sergeant, Herman Booth, a unique individual who brought an array of talents, including culinary skill, to our unit.

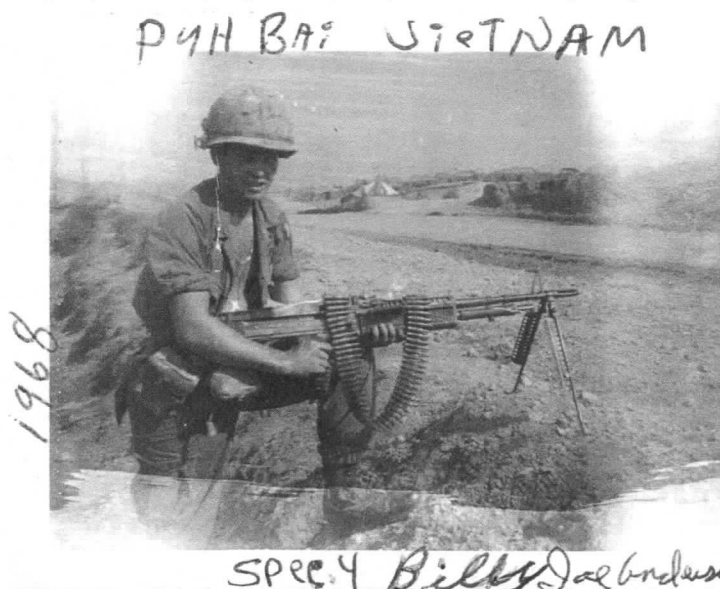
Thanks for all that you do to keep the memories of our time in the "Always First Brigade" fresh. I am renewing my subscription for two years. Use the additional amount for whatever you deem best.

Happy 85th. Many happy returns

+ **SGT(R) BILLY JOE ANDERSON**, 2/502 D 4/68-4/69, 521 W. Euclid, P.O. Box 641, Waukomis, OK 73773-0641, (580) 758-1105 sent the photos (next column). Here are some old pictures of mine from jump school at Ft. Benning, GA in Sept 1967 to Viet Nam in 2/502 INF, 1st BDE, 101st Airborne Division, Firebase Birmingham, April 12, 1969.



Me and my squad taken at Firebase Birmingham, Viet Nam, April 12, 1969. "Above the Rest" 101st Airborne. Sgt Anderson (Okla), SP/4 Fargas (New York), Sgt Ellis (Tenn) and PFC Law (Mich).



1968 Puh Bai, Vietnam. Spec 4 Billy Joe Anderson

+ **DONALD R. LENC**, 2/320 FA HHB 6/67-6/68, 5240 Windfall Rd., Medina, OH 44256-8750, work (216) 276-0977, home (330) 722-1879 wrote: Enclosed check for another year of the magazine. I always enjoy it and look forward to getting the next one.

I had a great time at the reunion in Nashville seeing you and all the rest of our guys. Looking forward to the 2015 50th Anniversary Commemoration.

+ **THOMAS J. HORNER, JR.**, 2/502 A 7/67-10/67, wrote "I received my January magazine fine and in the article about A Company, 2/502 in which I proudly served, Captain Charles P. Otstott (LTG (R) Charley Otstott, 2/502 A & HHC 6/67-6/68) says that second platoon was overrun. I was the M60 man in the 2nd platoon and received very critical wounds in the October 7th action." He would like to find those in his platoon who were part of that action as he has passed many years wondering what happened in his platoon on October 7th, 1967. He

closed by saying that his wounds resulted in him being comatose for 24 days with an adverse effect on his memory, so he would like to fill that large blank space in his mind. Tom can be reached at 340 Taylor St. NE, Apt. P-33 Washington, DC 20017-1551 (202) 529-3562.

+ **DENNIS RAE WRIGHT**, 2/502 HHQ 10/67-10/68, 4510 Custis Ave., Sacramento, CA 95822-1440 wrote: Feel free to include all contact information in the next magazine if you will. Phone number, (916) 457-7073, E-mail - dennisrecondo2502@yahoo.com, etc.

+ **JOHN P. FIGUEROA (RET)**, 1/327 Tiger Force 10/65-3/66, P.O. Box 3432, Cypress, CA 90630, (714) 872-6065, wrote: "Retired with 1 year 6 months 20 days service. Youngest retiree in Viet Nam war. On 3-19-66 at 7:00 p.m. at Phan Rang Base Camp I was shot by team members of the Mortar Platoon in an argument over a case of liquor - Jonny Walker liter (12) red scotch whiskey. Note: True claims stand forever."

+ **BART WELTER**, 2/327 HHC 64-9/66, 10146 Trailridge Drive, Shreveport, LA 71106-7631, (318) 797-3921 wrote: Really appreciate all that you do and have done for us.

Take care, Bart

Editor's Note: "Youngest" is a pretty big claim. I do believe Johnnie Walker Black would be a worthier thing to fight for.

+ = Current Subscriber



**From: Tim Swain, HHC S-2 65
CPT(R) Ralph Bleskan
1/327 B 65-66
November 19, 2012**

Captain Ralph Joseph Bleskan, U. S. Army Retired, age 80, of Dover, Tennessee passed away on November 19, 2012, at his home surrounded by his loving family. Mr. Bleskan was a hero who served his country in both the United States Marines and the United States Army as a Ranger, retiring with the rank of Captain. Mr. Bleskan was a hero having served in both the Korean War and the Vietnam War. He received the military's second

highest award, the Distinguished Service Cross. Additionally, he was awarded a Bronze Star and a Silver Star. Ralph was a paratrooper and made over 100 jumps during his military career. He trained both enlisted men as well as officers in parachute jumping. He also served overseas on embassy duty. Though serving in both the Marine and Army branches of service, Ralph was at heart always a Marine. Semper Fi. His wife reflects that he was a kind man who only thought of everyone else and he will be greatly missed. Ralph was a disciplined man who loved his country and God, worshipping at St. Francis of Assissi Catholic Church in Stewart County. After being a confirmed bachelor for 48 years, Mr. Bleskan's life was changed when he moved next door to the love of his life, Linda Dunaway Bleskan. When they married on March 6, 1982, he inherited an instant family and became the father of two sons who adored him. Mr. Bleskan is survived by his wife of 30 years, Linda Dunaway Bleskan; two sons: Scott (Julie) Weber, Todd (Shanda) Weber; and four grandchildren: Tyler Weber, Keaton Weber, Charlsey Miller and Trent Miller. The family celebrated the life of Captain Ralph Joseph Bleskan, U. S. Army Retired, on November 29th with Father Charles officiating at St. Francis of Assissi Catholic Church in Stewart County, Tennessee.

From: Bevan Olyphant, 1/327 ELT 7/65-??: My platoon Sergeant Ralph Bleskan passed away yesterday. I think we can all give thanks for having him as a part of our journey. He was a patient man, an honest man and one who gave so much to our Country. He was truly "ABOVE THE REST."

I went over on The ELTINGE with the First Brigade. I had the



First Platoon of B Company 1/327(ABN) w/SSG Ralph Bleskan (DSC) [retired as Captain Ralph J. Bleskan.] He was the best of the best and taught me a lot about myself, about people and about leadership. May he rest in peace knowing he did his very best always and made a difference. To give you an idea of why he meant so much to me..... (Later I was with the 3rd Bn. 5th SFG and Bleskan ran the show)

See Ralph J. Bleskan - DSC on page 27

**CW4(R) Demery M. Austin
2/327 HHC 9/66-8/67
February 24, 2013**

Notice was received that Demery M. Austin passed away on February 24, 2013. Condolences may be sent to Ms. Frances Austin at P.O. Box 519, Buies Creek, NC 27506-0519.

Editor's Note: A full obituary will be in the JULY 2013 issue.

**Frederic Baldwin Boruff
2/17 CAV A 6/65-7/66
October 17, 2010**

Thanks for the recent subscription form to my brother. However, Frederic Baldwin Boruff died 17 Oct 10. Ten days prior to his death he, his daughter and I went to Israel, Paris and Amsterdam [to celebrate the Sept Holland Liberation where he did a commemorative jump in the 60s]. As per Screaming Eagles, he was jumping til the last breath!

As a retired teacher at a girls' school in Dallas, I always look for the few women in the 101st and the military in general. I now volunteer at the VA Hospital in Dallas teaching creative writing and computer skills in their Veteran Recovery Center [PTSD, addiction and brain trauma]. I'm sure you are mourning Chris Kyle's untimely death as I am. I lived in Viet-Nam 68-70 and was married to an Air America pilot Jon Merkel KIA flying in Laos 18 Feb 70. I follow all things military, especially the DC gun control interest. 2nd Amendment rights are on the line.

I wish you the best in 2013.

As Fred always reminded me: Watch your 6:00.

Thanks,
Kay Merkel Boruff <kmerkelboruff@gmail.com>
12824 Midway Rd #1136
Dallas, TX 75244

WriteInk.org <http://www.wix.com/kmerkelboruff/writeinkorg2011>

Charles William "Pete" Dozier, Sr.
3/506
June 28, 1944 – October 16, 2012

Charles William "Pete" Dozier, Sr., 68, of Charles Town, West Virginia, passed away on October 16, 2012, at Winchester Medical Center in Winchester. Born June 28, 1944, in Bakerton, he was the son of the late George Warner Dozier, Sr., and Lottie Virginia Togsans Dozier.

He was employed by General Motors in Martinsburg, for 33 years. He served in the U.S. Army, with the 3rd 506th Infantry Unit and was also 101st Airborne Ranger, achieving rank of Sergeant, during the Vietnam War.

He was a 1962 graduate of Page Jackson High School and was an avid sports fan, especially of his beloved Dallas Cowboys.

He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Jeanette L. Dozier; one son, Charles "Petey" Dozier, Jr.; one daughter, Chrischele D. Dozier; granddaughter Brogan J. Dozier; three brothers, two sisters and numerous cousins, nieces, nephews, in-laws and friends.

Services were held on October 22, 2012, at Eackles-Spencer & Norton Funeral Home with Rev. Walter Jackson and Bishop Charles Hunter officiating. Interment was at Pleasant View Memory Gardens in Martinsburg.

Above obituary taken from THE SCREAMING EAGLE magazine winter 2012 issue.

Jerry Johnson
1/327 A 5/65-5/66 & HHC 11/66-11/67
February 26, 1944 - January 29, 2013

Retired CW3 Jerry D. Johnson, 68, of Fayetteville, North Carolina, passed away January 29, 2013. He was born February 26, 1944.

Mr. Johnson served in the U.S. Army from November 1964 to November 1984. Service included two tours in Viet Nam with the 101st Airborne Division from May 1965 to November 1967 and one tour in Korea. He received numerous decorations, medals and badges. He retired November 30, 1984, as food advisor for 18th ABN CORP and Fort Bragg.

Survived by wife Vivian, stepson Dennis and wife Margie, daughters, Katrina and Mary and granddaughter Emma, five brothers and three sisters. Preceded in death by his parents, three brothers and a sister.

Mr. Johnson was a wonderful husband for 46 years. A helpful neighbor and was considered a "FATHER" in the community.

Reverend Clarence Privette and Reverend Dean Kennedy held a memorial on February 2, 2013, at Haymount FWB Church in Fayetteville. Sullivan Highland Funeral and Crematory of Fayetteville, North Carolina, was in charge of services.

Condolences may be sent to Mrs. Johnson at 1502 Trevino Dr., Fayetteville, NC 28303-3056.

CSM(R) Bob Kreider
2/320 FA HQ 7/68-11/68

Received notice that Bob Kreider was deceased. No other information was given.

LTC(R) James "Jim" W. McElroy
1/327 B 2/67-10/67
October 3, 1942 – December 10, 2012

A Wonderful Man
A Wonderful Life

JAMES W. McELROY, "Jim," was born on October 3, 1942, in Pittsburgh, Pa., the first of nine children born to Harry and Rita (Glaser) McElroy. He grew up in various areas of the city. In his first year of college, he joined ROTC and became a member of the "Pershing Rifles" and realized he had found his calling. At 19 he joined the Army as an enlisted soldier and then was chosen to attend Officer Candidate School. As a military officer, he had many assignments - various locations in the United States, one tour in Germany and two tours in Viet Nam.

During his assignment at the Pentagon, he met and married Fran Minnick on April 14, 1979, in a civil ceremony at their home in Alexandria. Jim's next tour took him to MacDill AFB in Tampa, FL. It was there that Jim and Fran built their home in Palm Harbor and started proceedings to adopt a child. Jim was due for an overseas tour and since the adoption agency doesn't place a child unless both parents are in country, Jim decided not to take the chance of missing out on that special child and retired from the Army after 22 years.

Just a few months later, a call came in from the adoption agency. They had a "baby boy" available - would J and F be interested. After a split second of thought, they answered "yes" and then became the parents of Brian Douglas McElroy.

Jim then began a second career in real estate and was very successful. He knew the business so well, he was hired by a local Century 21 office as the trainer for new agents. Jim eventually decided to open his own office, named the business "Blue Heron Properties, Int'l.," and spent over 20 years as a realtor.

It was after J and F were both retired that Jim started having more apparent symptoms of a devastating illness. During the past two years, these symptoms worsened and on his 70th birthday, he was hospitalized and then resided in a rehabilitation center. While trying very hard to get better, the disease (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)) took over and on December 10, 2012, Jim left his earthly home for one that is "Above the Rest."

Jim is survived by his wife of 34 years, Fran and his son, Brian; four brothers: Jack (Rita) and Kevin, Pittsburgh, PA; Tom (Jan) and Bob (Lori) of Atlanta, GA; four sisters: Peg McElroy and Maureen Glowa, South Dartmouth, MA; Rose (Lee) Smulczenski and Nancy Trammell of St. Louis, MO; a sister-in-law Pegi (Tom) Libby, Henderson, NV; six nephews, eight nieces, three grand-nephews and seven grand-nieces.

He was greatly loved and will be sorely missed.

FIRST BRIGADE (S) CHALLENGE COIN

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



See order form on page 34



Tim Swain, HHC S-2 65, sent the obituary below.

Robert L. Morton
1/327 C 65-66
July 9, 1942 - August 1, 2006

Robert L. Morton died August 1, 2006, in Montgomery, Alabama. He was born July 9, 1942. Mr. Morton was a native of Albertville, AL. He graduated from Jacksonville State University in 1964 and was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army. He served as a rifle platoon leader with the 101st Airborne Division in Vietnam in 1965 and 1966. He then left the Army and began a career in education. Mr. Morton and his wife, Martha, taught at West End High School from 1966-1969. In 1969, they moved to Heflin, where he was a teacher and coach for two years before becoming the Principal at Cleburne County High School for 17 years. He also served as Assistant Superintendent and Superintendent for Cleburne County. The Morton's moved to Montgomery in 1966, where he began working for the Alabama State Department of Education, later becoming Assistant State Superintendent until his retirement in 2004.

He is survived by his wife, Martha; daughter, Marsha (Timothy) Turley and two grandsons, Gray and Will, all of Montgomery.

Dryden Funeral Home was in charge of services with Father Jim Callahan officiating. Burial followed in the Heflin City Cemetery.

Samuel Benton Snyder
2/502 B 5/66-5/67
January 9, 2013

FAYETTEVILLE - Samuel Benton Snyder, (2/502 B 5/66-5/67), 71, of Fayetteville, died Wednesday, Jan. 9, 2013. He was an Army veteran. Services: Memorial, 2 p.m. Tuesday in Special Forces Chapel on Fort Bragg. Reeves Funeral Home of Hope Mills. Published in Fayetteville Observer on January 27, 2013.

Terrance Stanosheck
2/502 RECON 67-68
Omaha, NE
April 20, 2004

Above info taken from THE SCREAMING EAGLE magazine winter 2012 issue.

Correction on Melvin Valentine's obit below -- wrong name and unit info used in JAN 13 issue

Melvin R. Valentine
2/327 C 4/67-4/68
April 26, 1947 - September 11, 2012

WATERLOO - Melvin R. "Mel" Valentine, 65, of Waterloo, Iowa, died Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2012, at his home of lung cancer as a result of exposure to Agent Orange in Vietnam.

He was born April 26, 1947, in Iowa Falls, son of Ray and Genny Register Valentine. He married Linda Pommrehn on June 7, 1968, at St. Matthews by the Bridge Episcopal Church, Iowa Falls.

He graduated from Des Moines East High School in 1965 and received a bachelor's degree in social work from the University of Northern Iowa in 1987. Mr. Valentine served in the 101st Airborne 327th Infantry during Vietnam. He worked at John Deere for 30



years, retiring in 2002. He served on Local 838 Employee Assistance Program Committee for 24 years, was amalgamated chair for four years and author and main contributor of "UAW Local 838, Our History" published in 1978. He was a member of Trinity Episcopal Parish, a 35-year AA member and a member of the American Legion, National Order of the Purple Heart and Disabled American Veterans.

Survived by: his wife; three daughters, Wendy (Scott Van Dorn) Valentine of Iowa Falls; Melinda (Kevin Davis) Valentine Davis and Amanda (Nate Whitesell) Valentine, both of Waterloo; six grandchildren, Joseph Repp, Spencer, Logan and Isabella Davis, Hope Valentine and one on the way; a brother, Robert (LouAnn) of Pelion, S.C., and a sister, Susan (Rick) Churchill of Charlotte, N.C.

Services were held at Trinity Episcopal Parish, Waterloo, with burial in Waterloo Memorial Park Cemetery, with military rites by Cedar Falls AMVETS Post 49 and Iowa Army National Guard.

Memorials in lieu of flowers: may be directed to Trinity Episcopal Parish or Disabled American Veterans.

Condolences may be left at www.LockeFuneralHome.com.

Tim Swain, HHC S-2 65, sent the above obituary.

Below is Terry Whitpan's obituary. Terry was one of the "original" Cold Steel Cobra Company guys and deployed on the infamous USNS LeRoy Eltinge:

My best regards, Allen C. De Graw



Terry Whitpan
1/327 C 65-66
May 29, 1944 - Dec. 29, 2012

Terry Whitpan, 68, of Cody, Wyoming, died Dec. 29, 2012, of a heart attack and complications of COPD. He was born May 29, 1944, in Neenah, Wis., the first son of Philip and Marcella Nadolney Whitpan. After graduating from Neenah High School he joined the Army.

Terry was a member of the 101st Airborne-327 and served in Vietnam 1963-66. He was proud of his service and loved his military family. He later worked at John Strange Paper.

He married Sharon Galau in 1972. She preceded him in death in February 2003. They moved to Cody where he worked various driving jobs until he was hired at Wyoming LP and delivered propane throughout the area. Later Wyoming LP was bought by Energy West, where he was employed until his death.

Terry was a founder of the Cody Shooting Complex and served as president more than five years.

Terry married Theresa Przybylski in 2006.

He enjoyed the outdoors and loved to hunt, go camping and take pictures of wildlife. He enjoyed showing Yellowstone Park and the surrounding area to visiting friends and family members. He seemed to always have a smile on his face and loved a good joke.

Terry is survived by his wife Theresa; daughter Darcie McColl of Cody and her special friend Erich Humes; son Ty Whitpan of Neenah; stepson TJ Simonis of Phoenix; stepdaughter Kaylyn Simonis of Mesa, Ariz.; sisters Diane Tessen of Menasha, Wis.; Judy Wittmann of Neenah; Cindy (Keith) Weeda of Omaha, Neb.; Jill Lemke of Omaha, and Gail (Earl) Pettidmange of Omro, Wis.; brothers Lee (Jo Ellen) Whitpan of Memphis, Ind.; Mark Whitpan of Neenah and Jon (Linda) Whitpan of Oshkosh, Wis.; grandchildren

Shannon Whitpan and Trevor Whitpan of Appleton, Wis. and Dominick McColl, Kimber McColl, Rayanne McColl and Shayne McColl of Cody; several nieces, nephews, good friends and special family friends Robert Seeley and Rod Roberts.

Memorial services were held on Saturday, Jan. 12, at the VFW Post Home with Pastor Kurt McNabb and Chaplain John Nowlin of the 101st Airborne officiating.

Frederick R. Williams
1/327 HHC 12/66-8/67
July 28, 2012

Frederick R. Williams, 66, of Vineland passed away on July 28, 2012.



He proudly served in the U.S. Army with the 82nd Airborne Division in the Dominican Republic and with the 101st Airborne Division in Viet Nam.

Fred worked as an electrician. He enjoyed traveling and sharing his life with his family and friends.

He is survived by his wife, Rose Marie Williams (Rinick); his children: Shawn, Michael, Alexander, Jenifer, Amber and Vince; his sisters; Susan (Roy) Widjeskog and Barbara (Nate) Sharp; ten grandchildren and many loving nieces and nephews.

A memorial service and burial will take place at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

Above obituary taken from THE SCREAMING EAGLE magazine winter 2012 issue.

Ralph J. Bleskan - Distinguished Service Cross



Distinguished Service Cross awarded for actions during the Vietnam War to CSM(R) Ralph Bleskan, 1/327 B 65-66. See his obituary on page 24.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, July 9, 1918 (amended by act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Distinguished Service Cross to Sergeant First Class Ralph J. Bleskan (ASN: RA-16698343), United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Platoon Sergeant Bleskan was acting as platoon leader, Company B, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry, 101st Airborne Division. On 7 February 1966 he was assigned the mission of advancing on the insurgent lines to assault a numerically superior hostile force that had a friendly rifle company pinned down for some four hours. The intense automatic weapons and machine gun fire killed several of his men, wounded others, and made any attempt to move up further almost impossible. Dauntlessly, Sergeant Bleskan stood up in the face of the intense fire and led his men forward., overrunning the first Viet Cong line of defense. During the rush, Sergeant Bleskan received a serious wound in the neck which he disregarded and continued to lead his men against the insurgent's second defensive perimeter. Sergeant Bleskan noted his right element had been pinned down by fire from a nearby house. Responding quickly, he destroyed it with a round from a light anti-tank weapon. Having crushed the Viet Cong's outer defenses, Sergeant Bleskan, with complete disregard for his safety, led his men across a machine-gun-raked rice paddy. Then crawling unarmed, he led four men into a ditch only ten meters from the Viet Cong and began launching grenades into their positions. He received another wound in the leg. Despite the pain from both wounds, he managed to lead one more assault on the insurgents, killing the remaining defenders in savage close-in combat. Sergeant Bleskan's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

General Orders: Headquarters, U.S. Army, Pacific, General Orders No. 221 (September 12, 1966)

50th Anniversary Commemoration



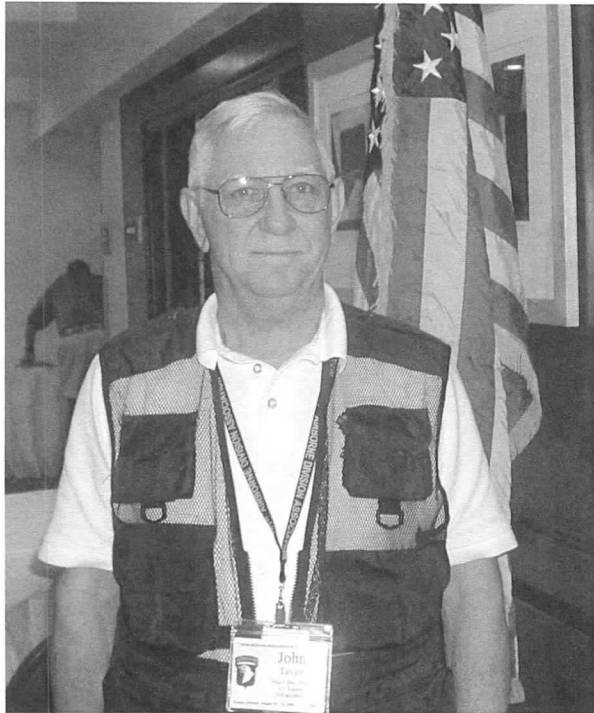
The two logos above are a first draft for artwork to identify the July 2015 50th Anniversary Commemoration of the First Brigade (S) 101st Airborne Division landing in Viet Nam. The back of the logo (it will more than likely also be a coin) will have the place and

dates of the celebration added to finalize it. The celebration will be on the week of the 27th of July 2015. The hotel and schedule are a work in progress. The 50th Anniversary gathering will be sponsored by THE FIRST SCREAMING EAGLES in VIET NAM magazine.

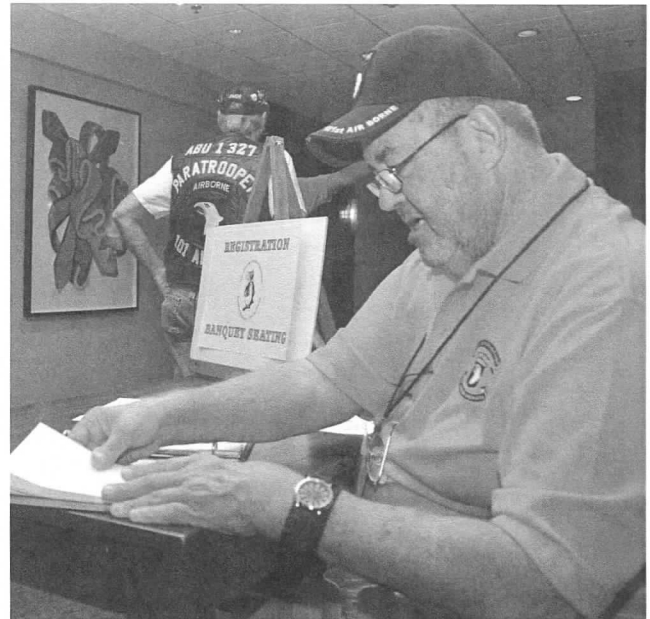
2013 Snowbird Reunion

Tampa, Florida

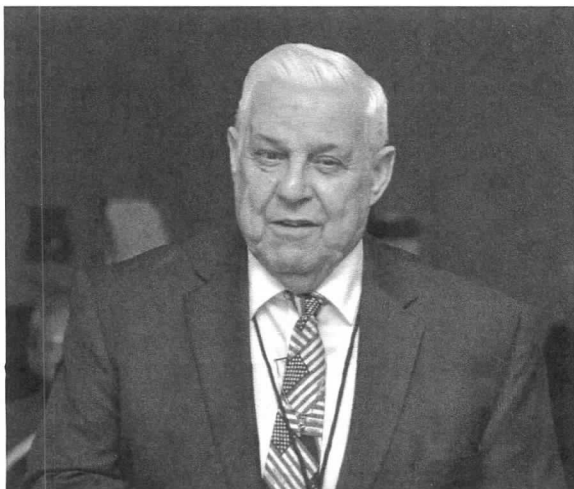
Hosted by the Gulf Coast Chapter,
101st Airborne Division Association



All photos of the 2013 Snowbird Reunion were taken by John M. Taylor, Jr., 1/501 SIG B 6/65-7/66. He is a member of the Gulf Coast Chapter and is a published author with a number of books to his credit. This picture shows him at a previous reunion in Tampa.



Ron Gillette, 2/502 B 1/67-5/67, who is chairman of the reunion committee, is shown here making table reservations for the reunion banquet.



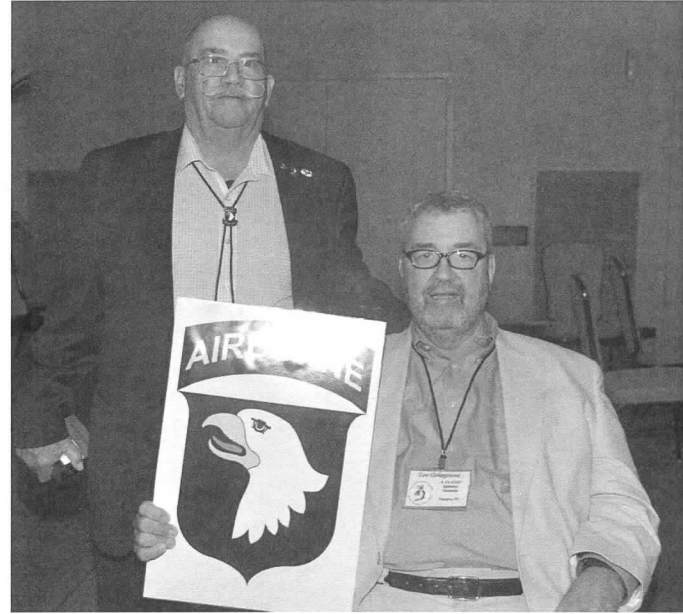
CSM(R) Harvey P. Appleman, 2/327 HQ 2/67-3/68, was the chairman for the Sixth Biennial First Brigade (S) Reunion in Clarksville, Tennessee, in May of 1998. He has also been honored as the First Brigade (S) Man of the Year at a Static Line Awards Dinner.



Robert J. (Buffalo Bob) Corey, 2/502 HHC RECON 10/65-1/67, was present and accounted for at all the Snowbird activities.



Charles E. "Chuck" Payne (center), 2/327 HHC & BDE HHC 12/65-11/66, and Randolph Worrell (right), 2/502 C 6/67-6/68, talk with an active duty Sergeant First Class at the reunion dinner.

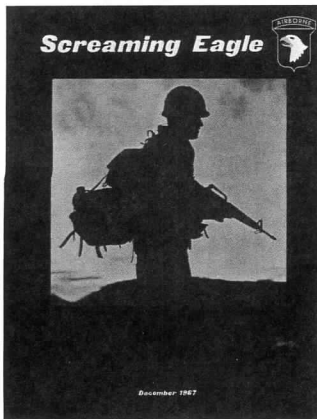


*Eddie Pissott, 1/327 A dates??, and Les Colegrove, 2/327 A & HHC 3/68-3/69, with a big 101st Airborne patch. Eddie, a talented graphic artist, designed the Snowbird logo, takes care of registration and edits the annual reunion book. Both live in Tampa.

* = Not a subscriber



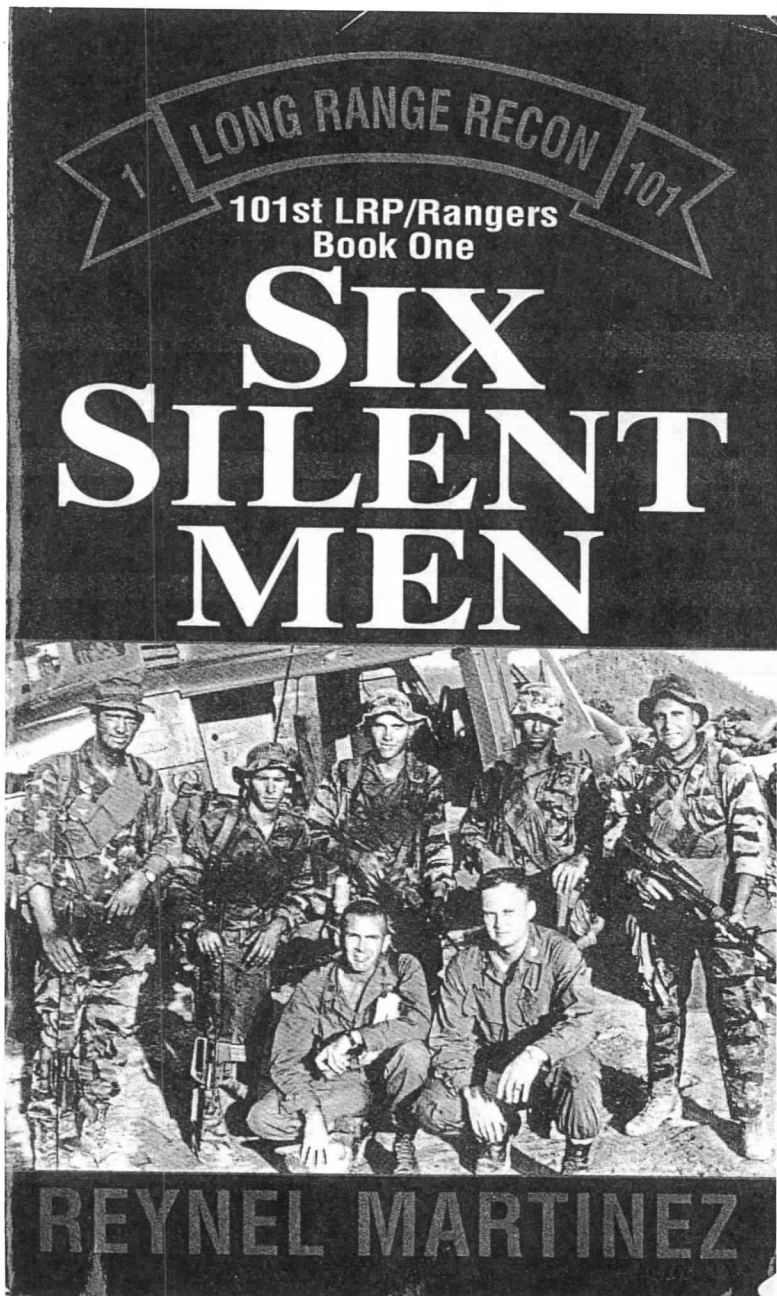
Mary and Larry (COL(R) Lawrence A. Redmond, 2/327 A 5/67-2/68), who are members of the Gulf Coast Chapter, prepare bags of goodies for distribution to those who register for the reunion.



Reprint of the December 1967 issue of THE SCREAMING EAGLE magazine. The magazine covers First Brigade (S) history from July 1965 through December 1967. See page 34 for order form.



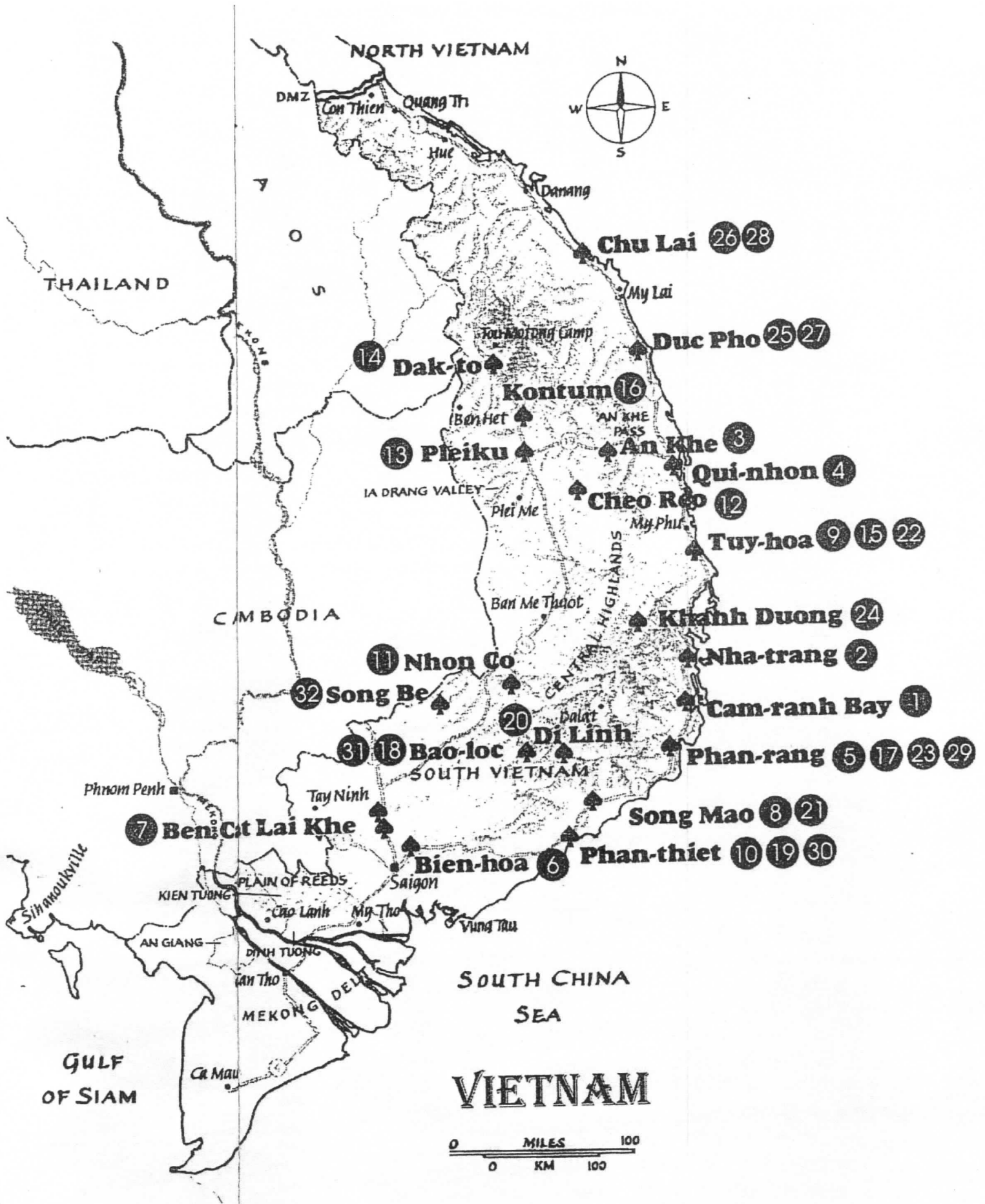
This four (4) inch diameter round decal is manufactured so that it may be used both inside and outside. The patch is full color. Price is \$2.50 each postpaid. See order form on page 34.



Timeline from Tim Swain, HHC S-2 65

Operations, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division 1965–1968

1. Cam-ranh Bay (arrival, 29 July 1965)
2. Nha-trang (Operation BARRACUDA, 12–20 August 1965)
3. An Khe (Operation HIGHLAND, 26 August–1 October 1965)
4. Qui-nhon (LRRP Detachment formed, 15 October 1965; Operation SAYONARA, 1 October–11 November 1965)
5. Phan-rang (22 November–10 December 1965)
6. Bien-hoa
7. Ben Cat, Lai Khe (Operation CHECKER BOARD, 10–19 December 1965)
8. Song Mao (13–17 January 1966)
9. Tuy-hoa (Operation VAN BUREN, 15 January–21 February; Operation HARRISON, 22 February–15 April)
10. Phan-thiet (Operation FILLMORE, 16–23 April 1966)
11. Nhon Co (Operation AUSTIN VI, 25 April–19 May 1966)
12. Cheo Reo (brigade split, 20–26 May 1966)
13. Pleiku (brigade split, 20–29 May 1966)
14. Dak-to (Operation HAWTHORNE, 29 May–22 June 1966; Operation BEAUREGARD, 24 June–15 July)
15. Tuy-hoa (Operations JOHN PAUL JONES, SEWARD, and GERONIMO, 15 July–1 December 1966)
16. Kontum (Operation PICKETT, 2 December 1966–23 January 1967)
17. Phan-rang (Operation FARRAGUT, 24–29 January 1967)
18. Bao-loc (Operations GATALING I and II, 1–15 February 1967)
19. Phan-thiet (Operations GATALING I and II, 16 February–1 March 1967)
20. Di Linh (Operations GATALING I and II, 1–12 March 1967)
21. Song Mao (Operations GATALING I and II, 12–24 March 1967)
22. Tuy-hoa (brigade separated, 1–24 March 1967)
23. Phan-rang (brigade reorganized and refitted, 24–28 March 1967)
24. Khanh Duong (Operation SUMMERALL, 30 March–29 April 1967)
25. Duc Pho (Operation MALHEUR I, 30 April–7 June 1967; Operation MALHEUR II, 8 June–1 August 1967; Operation HOOD RIVER, 2–13 August 1967)
26. Chu Lai (Operation BENTON, 13–29 August 1967)
27. Duc Pho (Operation COOK, 1–10 September 1967)
28. Chu Lai (Operation WHEELER, 11 September–23 November 1967)
29. Phan-rang (reorganization and refitting, 26 November–3 December 1967)
30. Phan-thiet (Operation KLAMATH FALLS, 4–12 December 1967)
31. Bao-loc (Operation KLAMATH FALLS, 13 December 1967–13 January 1968)
32. Song Be (Operation SAN ANGELO, LRRP Detachment 1/101st disbanded, 14 January–5 February 1968)



Heartland Airborne Memorial Association

P.O. Box 345
Boystown, Nebraska 68010
402-305-7669

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Dear Friend,

August 11, 2007 was a day of great pride for me. With the help of so many generous contributors like you, we were able to dedicate the Airborne Monument at Heartland of America Park. This statue stands as a testament to our nation's fighting forces and veterans alike. The monument has become a popular destination not just for the local community, but for visitors from across the world. Each year, different veteran's organizations travel to our community to visit this special tribute, which has helped establish Omaha as a premier meeting site for military veterans' conventions and reunions.

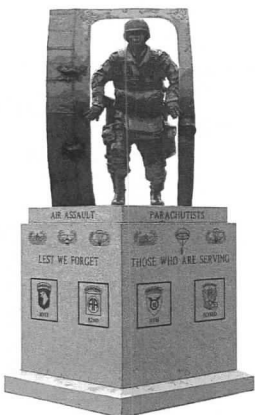
Now, it's time to honor those Airborne Medal of Honor recipients by creating an addition to the Airborne Monument site. The addition will:

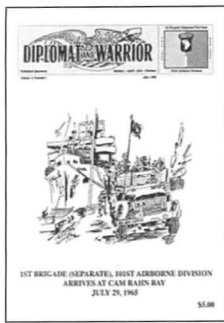
- Include the names of all Airborne recipients across all branches of the military, from the Airborne's inception in 1940 to present day
- Show our gratitude to the veterans who have served and support those in active military
- Be *the only monument of its kind in the United States*

Our goal is to raise \$40,000, so we can break ground on this beautiful new addition in the **spring of 2013**. We hope that once again, you will be willing to contribute a special gift of \$25 or more, so that we can meet our goal and dedicate this monument by the summer of 2013. Your financial support means that we are closer to showing our support and respect for those Airborne Medal of Honor recipients.

Thank you for your time,

Terry R. Zahn
President,
Heartland Airborne Memorial Association





Issue #1



Issue #2



Issue #3



Issue #4



Issue #5



Issue #6



Issue #7



Issue #8



Issue #9



Issue #10



Issue #11



Issue #12



Issue #13



Issue #14



Issue #15



Issue #16



Issue #17



Issue #18



Issue #19



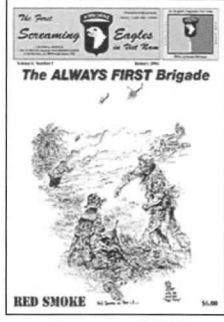
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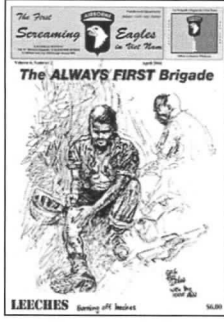
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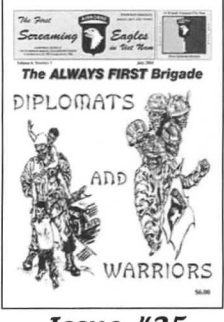
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Issue #23



Issue #24



Issue #25



Issue #26



Issue #27



Issue #28

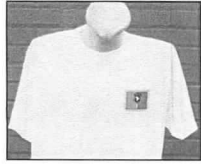


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Issue #30

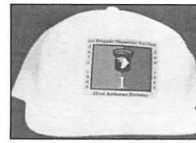
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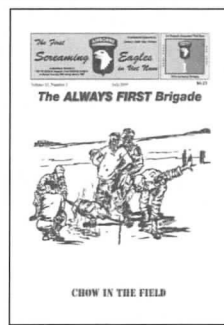
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Issue #44



Issue #45



Issue #46



Issue #47



Issue #48



Issue #49



Issue #50



Issue #51



Issue #52



Issue #53



Issue #54



Issue #55



Issue #56



Issue #57



Issue #58



Issue #59



Issue #60

THE FIRST SCREAMING EAGLES IN VIET NAM

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Following Is A Short Description Of The Contents Of This Magazine.

THE SCREAMING EAGLE PAGES 1 – 11
 Pages and pieces from the 101st Airborne Division Association magazine for November and December 1966 that pertain to veterans of the First Brigade (S).

SUBSCRIBERS' LIST PAGES 12 – 15
 Names and addresses of new subscribers, renewing subscribers, address changes and bad addresses. Please help correct a bad address if you can.

NEWS RELEASES PAGE 15
 Two news releases from the Brigade Information Section.

THE DIPLOMAT AND WARRIOR ... PAGES 17 – 20
 Volume I, Number 52, published June 19, 1967. A list of those mentioned, who are in the publisher's database is on page 16.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR PAGES 21 – 24
 Messages, believed to be of interest to most subscribers, sent by subscribers and others.

OBITUARIES PAGES 24 – 27
 CPT(R) Ralph J. Bleskan, 1/327 B 65-66; CW4(R) Demery

M. Austin, 2/327 HHC 9/66-8/67; Frederic Baldwin Boruff, 2/17 CAVA 6/65-7/66; Charles W. "Pete" Dozier, Sr., 3/506; CW3(R) Jerry Johnson, 1/327 A 5/65-5/66 & HHC 11/66-11/67; CSM(R) Bob Kreider, 2/320 FA HQ 7/68-11/68; LTC(R) James W. McElroy, 1/327 B 2/67-10/67; Robert L. Morton, 1/327 C 65-66; Samuel B. Snyder, 2/502 B 5/66-5/67; Terrance Stanosheck, 2/502 RECON 67-68; Melvin R. Valentine, 2/327 C 4/67-4/68; Terry Whitpan, 1/327 C 65-66 and Frederick R. Williams, 1/327 HHC 12/66-8/67.

2013 SNOWBIRD REUNION PAGES 28 & 29
 Pictures of First Brigade (S) veterans taken by John M. Taylor, Jr., 1/501 SIG B 6/65-7/66.

FIRST BRIGADE (S) TIMELINE PAGES 30 & 31
 A list of First Brigade (S) operations in Viet Nam taken from the book **SIX SILENT MEN** by Reynel Martinez, LRRP 12/66-6/68.

PARATROOPER STATUE PAGE 32
 Letter from Terry R. Zahn, SPT BN HQ ELT 7/65-5/66, about adding Airborne Medal of Honor recipients to the existing Paratrooper Statue in Omaha, Nebraska.

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Brigadier General Willard Pearson talks to a trooper after an operation.

PACIFIC STARS & STRIPES PHOTO

(If you can identify the trooper please contact the editor)