

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



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101st Airborne Division

Volume 15, Number 4

October 2013

\$7.50

The ALWAYS FIRST Brigade



AIRBORNE REFRESHER AT KONTUM



In the Pentagon on August 30, 2013, my grandson (third from the left) was promoted to Colonel. Some of the family members present were (L to R) his father LTC (R) Howard C. Kirk III; his brother Dr. Ryan Kirk who is a professor at Elon University in North Carolina; newly promoted Colonel Howard C. Kirk IV and grandfather MAJ (R) Ivan G. Worrell.

Preparations for the 50th Anniversary of the Brigade landing in Viet Nam are progressing. We will be in Nashville, Tennessee, in conjunction with the annual 101st Airborne Division Association Reunion. July 29th, 2015, will be First Brigade (S) day to celebrate with activities planned for the entire day. A depiction of our 50th Anniversary logo is on page 12. Please reserve July 29th, 2015, and plan to be in Nashville for this celebration. More information about the Association reunion is forthcoming.

My son, LTC (R) Howard Kirk (see photo above), came to the reunion, in Portland, with me. He flew from Kansas City to Denver and I came from Knoxville to Denver where we met and proceeded to Portland. While at the reunion, he found three or four men who served in his Viet Nam unit, the Ninth Division. At the Banquet/Memorial Service we sat with veterans of the WWII 506th who he was very interested in as we had

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).



visited Toccoa, Georgia, a few weeks earlier where we toured the museum and drove to the top of Currahee Mountain.

In putting this magazine together I noted that many of you who attained rank in the Army, I would have been proud of, are not giving me anything to list before your name. This is particularly applicable to many of you who retired from the Army. Please check your mailing information on the back of the magazine and let me know if you would like to be more properly and completely identified in mailing, photo captions and stories in the future magazines.

You may have noticed that input for LETTERS TO THE EDITOR is not as numerous as they once were. I would like to hear from you if you have comments about the magazine and/or something to share with your fellow Viet Nam veterans.

As you can note on page 35, shirts can no longer be ordered after December 31, 2013. There was not enough demand for shirts to keep selling them.

I greatly appreciate those of you who make a contribution when you renew. That contribution is acknowledged by a \$ sign after each contributors name in the Renewal section of the magazine along with acknowledgement of the gift in the return receipt.

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+ = Subscriber, * = Dropped Subscriber,
 ** = Never Subscribed, *** = Unable to contact,
 **** = Not in database.

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Issue #62

The cover drawing by Raymond Brown depicts our Airborne Refresher training at Kontum prior to Operation Junction City. The mission was given to the 173rd Airborne Brigade.

**COMBAT OPERATIONS
AFTER ACTION REPORT**

**OPERATION
SEWARD**

**1st BRIGADE
101st
AIRBORNE DIVISION**



**DIPLOMATS
AND
WARRIORS**

This After Action Report is part of a 109 page First Brigade (S) 101st Airborne Division "OPERATIONAL REPORT FOR QUARTERLY PERIOD ENDING 31 OCTOBER 1966." The entire document has been declassified so all CONFIDENTIAL markings have been removed.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 1ST BRIGADE 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION
APO 96347

AVBD-C

6 November 1966

SUBJECT: Combat Operations After Action Report, Operation SEWARD (RCS:
MACV J3-32) (U)

THRU: Commanding General
I Field Force Vietnam
APO 96350

TO: Commanding General
US Military Assistance Command Vietnam
ATTN: J343
APO 96243

1. (U) Name of Operation: Operation SEWARD.
2. (U) Dates of Operation: 5 September through 25 October 1966.
3. (U) Location: PHU YEN Province.
4. (U) Command Headquarters: 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division.
5. (U) Reporting Officer: Brigadier General Willard Pearson, Commanding General, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division.
6. (C) Task Organization: The task organization of the Brigade at the initiation of Operation SEWARD was as shown below. The only significant changes to this organization during the operation were the detachment of the 5/27 Arty on 1 October and the termination of operational control of the 1/22 Inf on 13 October.

<u>1/327 Inf</u>	<u>Bde Troops</u>
<u>2/327 Inf</u>	Bde HHC (-)
<u>2/502 Inf</u>	A 2/17 Cav
	A 326 Engr
<u>1/22 Inf</u>	LRRP
	MP Plat (-)
<u>2/320 Arty</u>	181 MI Det
	20 Cml Det
B 1/30 Arty	22 Mil Hist Det
	101st Avn Sec
<u>5/27 Arty</u>	Tactical Air Control Party
	406 RFD
<u>Spt Bn FSE</u>	

7. (C) Supporting Forces:
 - a. 2/320 Arty: Employed in a direct support role.
 - b. B 1/30 Arty (OPCON): Provided general support (reinforcing) fires during the operation.

SUBJECT: Combat Operations After Action Report, Operation SEWARD (RCS: MACV J3-32) (U)

- c. 5/27 Arty (-): Provided general support fire during the operation.
- d. 10th Army Avn Bn: Provided two airmobile companies in general support of the operation. These helicopters flew troop lift, combat support and resupply missions.
- e. 179th Avn Co: Provided two flyable CH-47 aircraft on a mission support basis for use in displacing and resupplying artillery units.
- f. 183 Avn Co: Provided four and five O-1 aircraft for visual reconnaissance, artillery adjustment and radio relay.
- g. 5th Air Commando Squadron: Provided airlift support for Psy War Ops.
- h. 245th Psy Ops Co: Provided one loudspeaker and leaflet dissemination team in direct support.
- i. 7th US Air Force: Flew 144 tactical air missions totaling 306 sorties; of these missions 18 were preplanned and 126 were immediate. The immediate strikes were requested through the Air Force Direct Air Request Net and the average response time from the initiation of the requests until time-over-target was twenty minutes. The results of these missions included 9 KBA (BC), 52 KBA (EST), 78 structures destroyed, 68 structures damaged, 2 automatic weapons positions destroyed, 7 automatic weapons positions damaged, 2 boats sunk, 2 boats damaged, and trench complexes damaged.
- j. 45th Engr Gp: Provided general support along Highways 1, 6B and 7B.
- k. 498th Med Det (Aml): Provided responsive, rapid evacuation support to the Brigade throughout the operation.
8. (U) Intelligence: See Inclosure 1, Intelligence.
9. (C) Mission: Headquarters, I Field Force Vietnam directed the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division to conduct operations to protect the rice harvest in the TUY HOA and TUY AN areas; to conduct search and destroy operations to locate VC/NVA forces in the AO; and to provide security from VUNG RO Bay to TUY HOA.
10. (C) Concept of Operation: Offensive search and destroy tactics were generally used throughout Operation SEWARD to include securing the rice harvest areas. The four maneuver battalions available to the Brigade were generally utilized by protecting the TUY AN rice harvest with one battalion, protecting the rice harvest in the HIEU XUONG Valley with one battalion, securing the VUNG RO Bay/Pass area with a third battalion, and having a fourth battalion as an immediate action force to exploit any contact or suspected enemy locations elsewhere in the AO. See Inclosure 2 (Operation Schematics) Tabs A, B, and C.
11. (C) Execution:
- a. Operation SEWARD was characterized by counter guerrilla tactics, primarily encompassing small unit actions and frequent contact with small enemy forces. The search and destroy tactics utilized consisted of saturation patrolling, night movement, night ambushes, raids and the use of small unit stay behind forces and small unit immediate action forces. The terrain over which operations were conducted included

6 November 1966

SUBJECT: Combat Operations After Action Report, Operation SEWARD (RCS:
MACV J3-32) (U)

mountainous jungles, rolling hills, dry and inundated rice paddies, sand dunes and beaches.

b. SEWARD was initiated concurrently with the termination of Operation JOHN PAUL JONES at 050500H September 1966. Brigade units were already deployed in the operational area.

c. At the beginning of SEWARD the 1/327 Inf (-), previously deployed as the I FFORCEV reserve to NINH HOA, continued search and destroy operations to counter enemy threats in that area. Company A, the Mortar and Reconnaissance Platoons 1/327 Inf remained at TUY HOA to protect the rice harvest in the HIEU XUONG Valley. The 2/327 Inf continued the protection of the rice harvest and conducted search and destroy operations in the TUY AN area. Concurrently, search and destroy operations were conducted by the 2/502 Inf northwest of TUY HOA. Defense of critical terrain and security of the VUNG RO Bay/Pass area was provided by the 1/22 Inf which was under the operational control of the 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div (See Inclosure 2, Tabs A and B). On 7 September, A Troop, 2/17 Cav conducted an amphibious assault with one platoon northeast of TUY HOA establishing blocking positions in support of the search and destroy operations of the remainder of the troop. The 1/327 Inf (-) departed NINH HOA between 8 and 10 September after being relieved by Company F 1/22 Inf, and returned to conduct operations in the HIEU XUONG Valley. The mission at NINH HOA was soon thereafter cancelled and Company B, 1/22 Inf returned to the VUNG RO Bay area. The 2/502 Inf was extracted on 10 September from its area of operation and the battalion minus was deployed to TU BONG to counter an enemy threat to the rice harvest storage there. Company A 2/502 Inf remained at TUY HOA South Airfield as an immediate action force. On 13 September elements of the 2/502 Inf provided security for a 45th Engr Gp convoy moving on Highway 1 from NINH HOA to TU BONG, and on 15 and 16 September the 2/502 Inf returned to TUY HOA South by helicopter and began preparation for future combat operations. On the night of 17 September the command post of Company B 2/327 Inf came under attack and was overrun by an estimated one hundred VC. Ten US troops were killed and twelve wounded in the action. The 2/502 Inf conducted an airmobile assault into an AO northwest of TUY HOA on 19 September. The LRRP was also inserted in conjunction with the 2/502 Inf and discovered a VC base camp complex. The 2/327 Inf (-) moved ooth by helicopter and overland to the southwest portion of its AO and established blocking positions in coordination with the 2/502 Inf attack. Two CIDG companies from DONG TRE provided blocking forces for these battalions. The 2/327 Inf discovered an extensive tunnel complex in the area which was mapped and then destroyed by the engineers. Between 28 and 30 September the 2/502 Inf was extracted from the DONG TRE area and moved to TUY HOA South. Based on information received from an escaped POW, the 1/327 Inf raided a VC prisoner of war camp in the southwest portion of its AO and twenty-three Vietnamese Nationals were liberated in the action on 3 October. Company C and the Mortar Platoon of 1/22 Inf was deployed by helicopter into the TU BONG area to protect the rice storage there. On 4 October the 2/502 Inf deployed by helicopter and overland by vehicle to TUY AN and assumed the mission of the 2/327 Inf. Concurrently, the 2/327 Inf deployed to TUY HOA South and began refitting and preparing for future combat operations. (See Inclosure 2, Tab C). On 7 October the 2/327 Inf conducted an airmobile assault west of TUY HOA. The battalion secured critical terrain along Highway 7B and conducted search and destroy operations in zone until 10 October when it returned to TUY HOA South. This operation was in conjunction with an engineer effort to repair the road and bridges along Highway 7B. During the period 11 and 12 October, two platoons from Company A 2/327 Inf were deployed to a location near PHAN RANG to provide security for the Air Force extraction of a downed C-130 aircraft. The 2/502 Inf conducted search and destroy

SUBJECT: Combat Operations After Action Report, Operation SEWARD (RCS: MACV J3-32) (U)

operations in an area southwest of TUY AN during the period 10 through 16 October to exploit sightings and contacts made by LRRP teams. On 13 October the 1/22 Inf was relieved in place by the 1/8 Inf, and the 1/22 Inf deployed to PLEIKU by CV-2 and C-127 aircraft and returned to the operational control of the 4th Infantry Division. On 19 and 20 October the 1/327 Inf and 2/327 Inf, respectively, were relieved by elements of the 28th ROK Regt of their missions in the HIEU XUONG Valley and for the security of TUY HOA South Airfield. On 21 October Company A 2/327 Inf conducted an airmobile assault west of TUY HOA to provide security for engineer work parties repairing Highway 7B. Operation SEWARD terminated at 2400 hours 25 October following the relief of the 2/502 Inf in the TUY AN area by the 1st Bde, 4th Inf Div.

12. (C) Results:

a. The 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div accomplished its mission of protecting the TUY AN and HIEU XUONG Valley rice harvests securing the VUNG RO Bay/Pass area, and conducting search and destroy operations to locate and destroy VC and NVA forces in the AO.

b. The following losses were inflicted on the enemy during the operation: 230 VC/NVA KIA (BC), 142 VC/NVA KIA (EST), 9 VC/NVA KBA (BC), 52 VC/NVA KBA (EST), 6 NVAC, 34 civil defendants, 2 VCC, 871 detainees, and 10 ralliers. In addition, 80 individual and crew served weapons, 40.5 tons of rice, ammunition and other equipment were captured.

c. Friendly losses during the operation were as follows: 26 KIA, 169 WIA.

13. (U) Administrative Matters:

a. Personnel and Administration: See Inclosure 3, Personnel and Administration.

b. Logistics: See Inclosure 4, Logistics.

c. Civic Action: The first lot of "Eagle Brand" washing machines was contracted for and delivered to the Brigade. Five of these machines have been donated to orphanages, hospitals and dispensaries in the TUY HOA area.

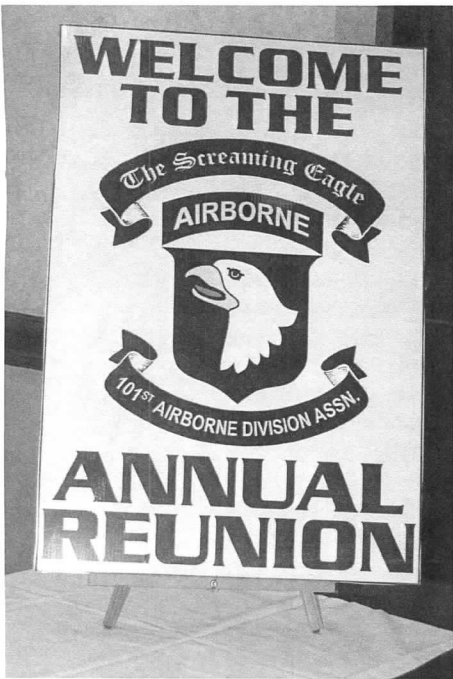
14. (C) Special Equipment and Techniques:

a. In order to effectively employ CS agents and flamethrowers, teams were made available at Brigade level to be employed on an "on-call" basis. A helicopter rigged for CS employment and charged flamethrowers were maintained on a thirty minute standby.

b. 1000 and 2000 pound bombs with instantaneous fuzes are good expedients for clearing landing zones in certain types of jungle terrain. With the 1000 pound bomb, clearing team work is still required to improve the landing zone; however, the 2000 pound bomb can be expected to create a clearing sufficient to land one UH-1 helicopter. The use of an instantaneous fuze clears the vegetation with a nominal ground cratering effect.

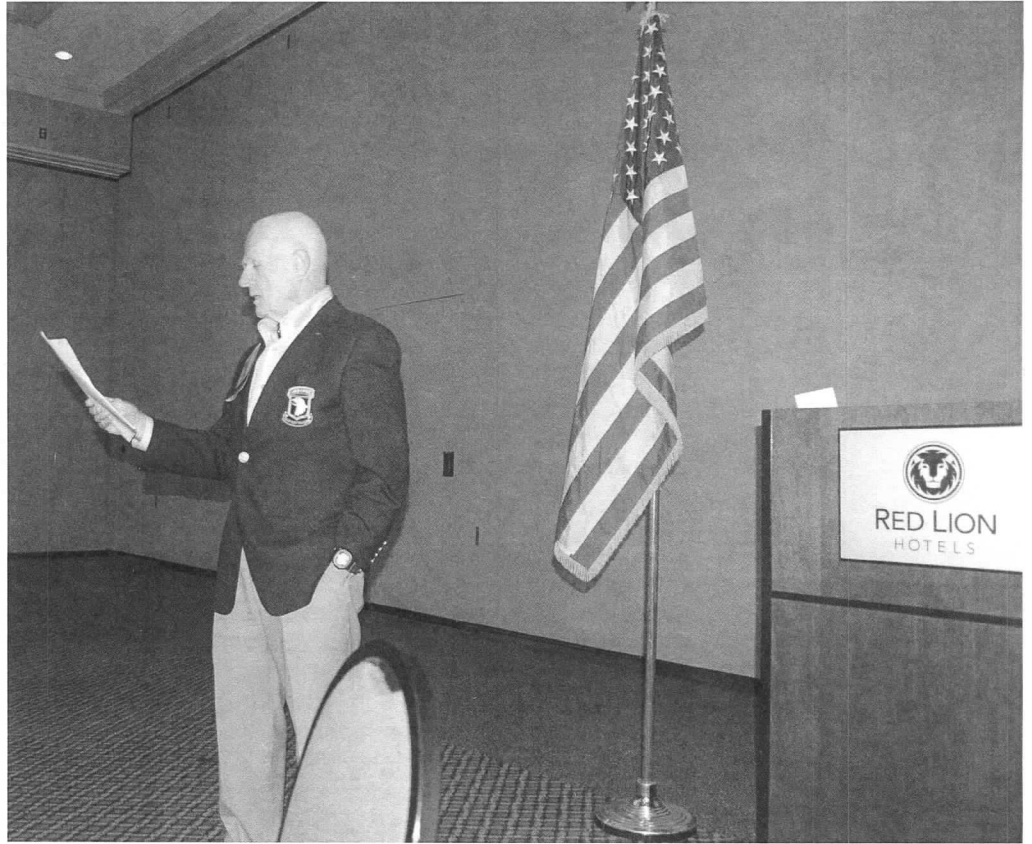
c. Unloading troops by ladder from a CH-47 helicopter is an extremely slow process, and normally only landing zone clearing teams should be unloaded in this manner. When on a resupply mission where landing zones are not readily accessible, the majority of the items can be free dropped to the units and the more sensitive items can be lowered by rope.

Continued on Page 28

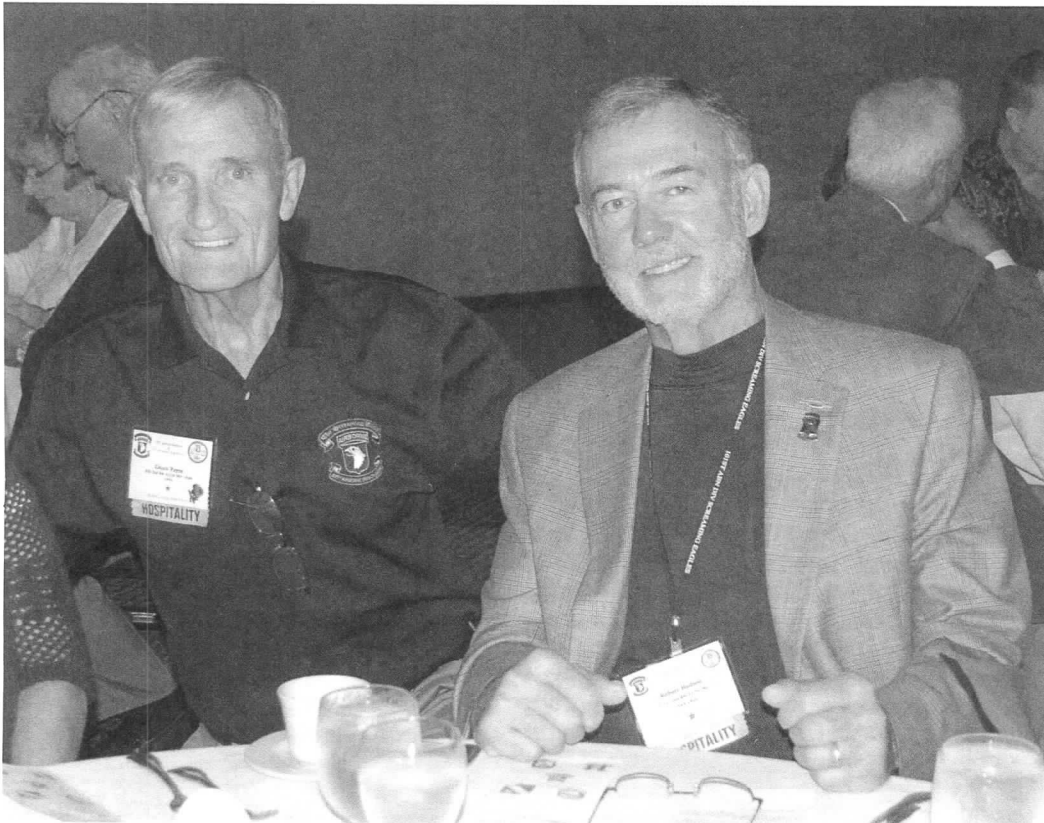


The sign greeting all who attended the 68th Annual Reunion in Portland, Oregon, August 14–17, 2013.

Editor's Note: The 101st Airborne Division Association reunion in Portland, Oregon, was a great success from my view. The hotel was good, the river view was great and the downtown area was interesting. All the reunion activities ran smoothly and the meals were delicious. Some pictures from the reunion are shown here. If you have reunion pictures you believe should be published send them. (Reunion photos by Ivan Worrell)



+ LTC (R) Allen C. De Graw, 1/327 C 7/64-7/66 ELT, Senior 101st Airborne Division Association Governor for the 327th/401st Airborne Infantry Regiments, opens the program for the regimental dinner.



+ Charles E. 'Chuck' Payne, 2/327 HHC 1/66-9/66, and + Robert C. Hudson, 2/327 C & HHC 8/64-7/66, at the unit dinner.



+ COL(R) Lawrence A. 'Larry' Redmond, 2/327 A 5/67-2/68, and his wife Mary at the 327/401 unit dinner taking a break from reunion volunteer duties.

+ LTC (R) Richard C. Schonberger, 2/327 HHC 7/66-7/67, and his wife Sylvia at the unit dinner.



+ Thomas K. and Lois Sewell, 2/327 A & B 1/68-1/69, enjoy some relief from reunion volunteering.



+ Fred Ranck, 1/327 A 12/68-1/70, and his wife Ellen found a corner table at the unit dinner.



+ LTC (R) Howard Kirk (son of Ivan Worrell) who served in the 9th Division in Vietnam in 1967 – 68 and later as an advisor; with + William F. (Billy) Weldon, 2/327 INF A 6/67-6/68. Howard found a few 9th Division Viet Nam veterans at the reunion.



The 101st Airborne Division Memorial Display and candles at the Memorial Dinner in the Main Ballroom of the Red Lion Hotel on the River, Saturday August 17, 2013.

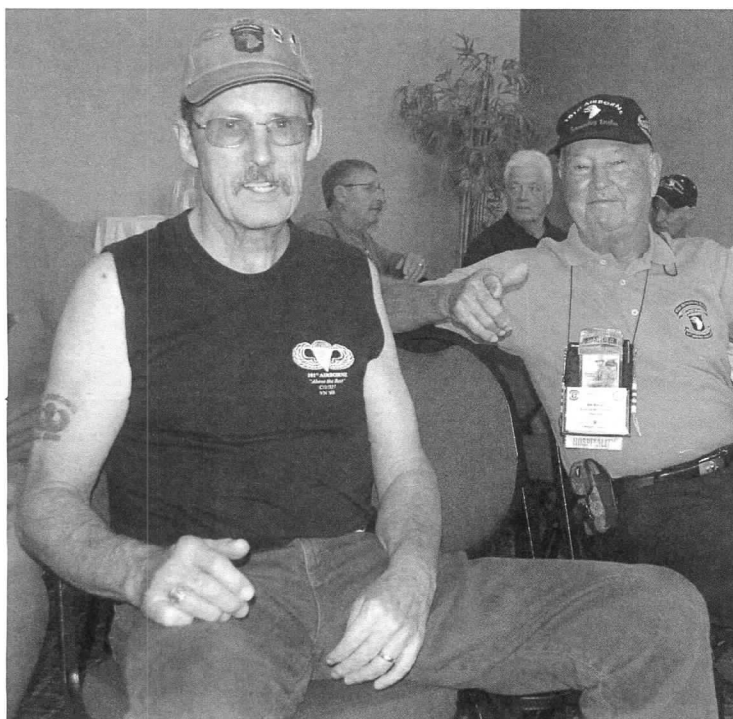
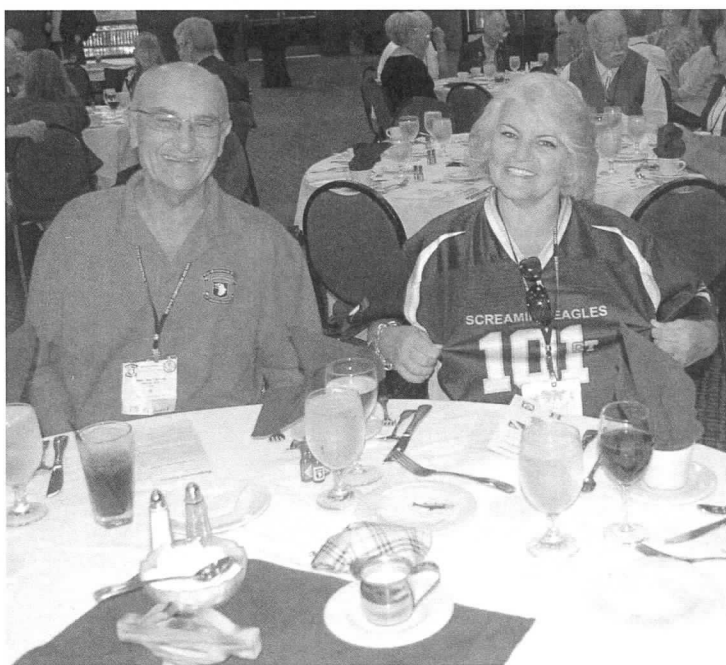


+Ron Martin, 2/327 Att A,B,C 4/66-8/66, and his wife Raiza at the Memorial Dinner.

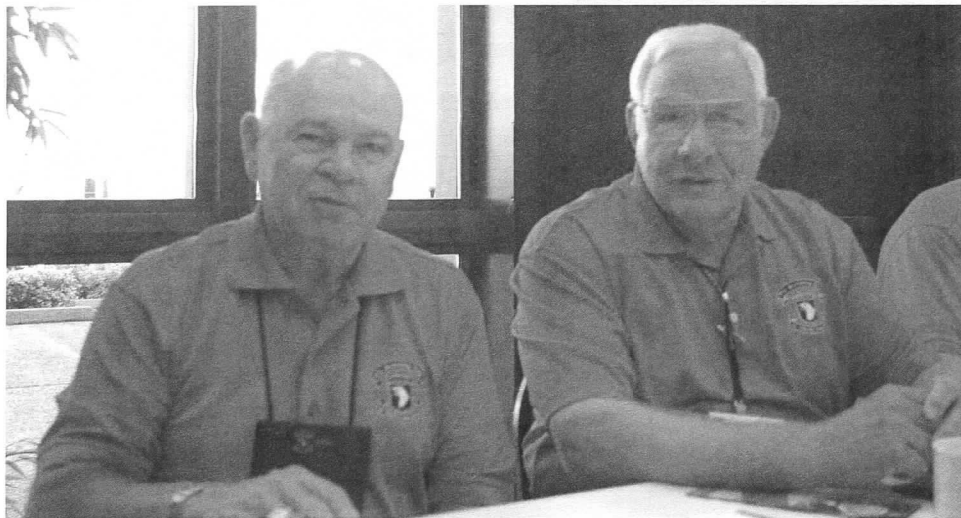


*Rikki Alexander and ** CHAP (COL-R) Bill W. Libby, 2/502 HQ 3/68-11/68, at the head table for the Memorial Dinner. Rikki is the wife of + COL (R) Joe R. Alexander, 3/506 A 10/67-10/68, and is the 101st Association Chairman of the Board of Governors and Chaplain Libby is the Association Chaplain.*

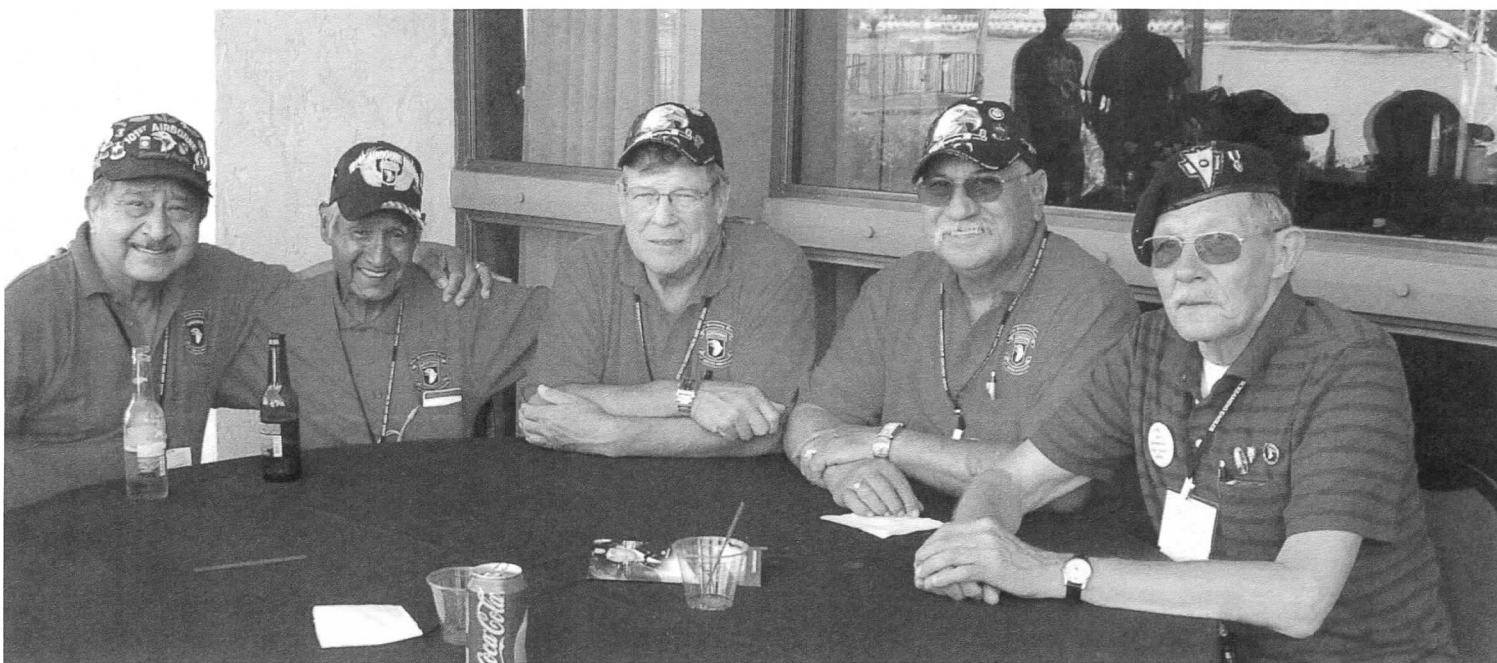
+ Nick "Doc" Mihalic, 2/327 HHC 2/67-8/67, and his wife Barbara who won \$1,000 in the 101st Association drawing.



*** SP4(R) William L. Beattie, 1/327 C dates ?? and + LTC (R) William (Bill) Rován, 2/327 HQ & A 6/66-5/67, are spectators at the 101st Airborne Division Association Board of Governors Meeting.*



Sitting at a 101st Airborne Division Association Board Meeting are (L to R) + Thomas K. Sewell, 2/327 A & B 1/68-1/69, President of the Screaming Eagle Foundation and + COL (R) Joe R. Alexander, 3/506 A 10/67-10/68, Chairman of the Board of the 101st Airborne Division Association.



*A table of 2/502 veterans take advantage of the great weather to gather outside the hospitality room. They are (L to R) + Sgt. Homero Gomez, 2/502 C 6/67-7/68; + Chief Donald James, 2/502 A 67-68; + Clinton J. Adkins, 2/502 A 7/67-7/68; + Luis M. Lopez, 2/502 A 3/67-3/68, and * Ronald G. McHenry, 2/502 RECON 5/66-5/68.*



+ Joe K. Berry, 2/327 A 12/67-8/69, and his wife Donna enjoy the outdoor hospitality room by the river.



The 101st Association tent was prominent as part of the outdoor hospitality room.



The hospitality room on the patio was convenient and the weather was pleasing. Please note the telephone number for 101st Airborne Division Association Headquarters on the tent.



Deadline

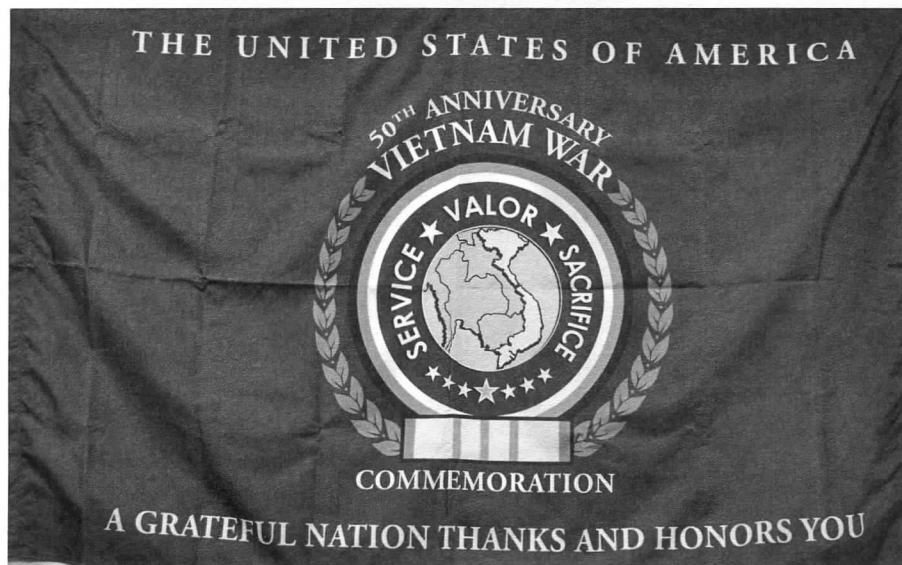
Material to be published in
the
January 2014 issue of
**The First SCREAMING
EAGLES in Viet Nam**
is Due December 1st, 2013.

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.



A 50th Anniversary Commemoration of the Vietnam War flag was displayed in the Chapter Hospitality Room at The Sheraton National Hotel during 2013 Memorial Day activities. [Anne Worrell Beech pix]

THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA
VIETNAM WAR
COMMEMORATION

COMMEMORATION OBJECTIVES

1. To thank and honor veterans of the Vietnam War, including personnel who were held as prisoners of war or listed as missing in action, for their service and sacrifice on behalf of the United States and to thank and honor the families of these veterans.
2. To highlight the service of the Armed Forces during the Vietnam War and the contributions of Federal agencies and governmental and non-governmental organizations that served with, or in support of, the Armed Forces.
3. To pay tribute to the contributions made on the home front by the people of the United States during the Vietnam War.
4. To highlight the advances in technology, science, and medicine related to military research conducted during the Vietnam War.
5. To recognize the contributions and sacrifices made by the allies of the United States during the Vietnam War.

www.vietnamwar50th.com

New Subscribers

June 4, 2013 through
September 4, 2013

Chester A. Martin, Jr.
1/327 ABU 7/65-6/66 - 4/14
548 Savely Drive
Hendersonville, TN 37075-3246

Renewals

June 4, 2013 through
September 4, 2013

Doug Abran
2/327 A 4/67-4/68 - 7/14
P.O. Box 1092
Lawai, HI 96765-1092

Robert L. Andrews
2/17 CAV A Trp 6/64-6/69 - 7/14
1461 Stillhouse Road
Salem, WV 26426-8607

Daniel T. Barczewski
1/327 A 63-66 - 7/15
13 Virginia Ter.
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Larry R. Barnes
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Three Rivers, CA 93271

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SPT BN D 7/65-7/66 - 7/14
6214 Welles Brook
San Antonio, TX 78240-2105

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2/327 A 12/67-8/69 - 7/15
765 Como St.
Weed, CA 96094-2207

Arthur R. Besser
2/502 B 3/67-10/67 - 7/14
7022 Mikes Rd.
Waffis, TX 77485

John "Doc" Blair
1/327 C 2/67-2/68 - 7/14
1711 Winfore Ct.
Midlothain, VA 23113

Lawrence P. Boecklen \$
2/327 B 1/67-1/68 - 7/14
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Miramar, FL 33029-5036

Ernest Bridgers \$
2/502 RECON 3/66-5/67 - 4/14
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Rocky Mount, NC 27804-9500

Tom Carhart
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Florance, MA 01062-9767

William R. (Bill) Carver
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Olathe, KS 66061-8307

Benito R. Chavez
2/502 B 11/65-11/67 - 7/14
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Longmont, CO 80501-2550

Ronald L. Collins
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Freddie Cook
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CPT(R) Thomas J. Courtney \$
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Fayetteville, GA 30214-4729

Rondal W. Dockery
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Fred Raymond Ellis
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Clovis, CA 93619-4657

Dennis M. Fague
1/327 HHC T.F. 8/66-3/68 - 4/14
14730 SE 63rd
Bellevue, WA 98006-4636

Nick Fondo
1/327 A 12/65-6/67 - 4/14
5018 Roosevelt St.
Hollywood, FL 33021-4032

Kenneth Gormley, Sr.
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Cape Coral, FL 33904-3250

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Wilmington, NC 28411-8119

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Fontana, CA 92337-7934

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Arthur R. Kottke
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Mora, MN 55051-9706

Hugh "Keith" Lisenby
2/502 INF HHC Recon 7/65-7/66 - 7/14
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Orlando, FL 32808

Edwin L. McVay
2/327 B 67-68 - 7/14
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Muncie, IN 47302-8779

Boyd McWilliams
2/502 C 11/65-12/66 - 4/14
P.O. Box 1000
Wittmann, AZ 85361

Joseph A. Mastriani \$
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56 Smoke Hill Ridge
Marshfield, MA 02050-2576

Harold Mattson
1/327 A 5/65-3/67 - 4/14
8701 Thomas Ave. S.
Bloomington, MN 55431

Ewing J. Miller
1/327 A 2/68-7/68 - 10/14
3340 Allie Lane
Clinton, IA 52732-7244

LTG(R) John E. Miller
2/327 B 5/67-2/68 - 7/14
1011 W 66th St.
Kansas City, MO 64113-1815

James F. Moore
42nd SCOUT DOG 7/67-7/68 - 7/14
P. O. Box 243
Lovell, ME 04051

COL(R) Gerry Morse
1/327 C.O. 7/67-7/68 - 4/14
10914 East Twilight Drive
Sun Lakes, AZ 85248-7926

Earl R. Mower \$
2/327 A, HQ&HQ 7/65-7/66 - 7/14
1226 Hunter Ln.
Perkiomenville, PA 18074-9445

SFC (R) Robert Mumblow
2/320 FA HHB 5/67-5/68 - 7/14
126 Pinecrest Drive
Chadbourn, NC 28431-1604

SP4 Charles Mungin
2/502 B 7/65-6/66 - 7/14
4 Daffodil Drive
Tuckerton, NJ 08087-4064

Patrick "Doc" Murphy \$
1/327 HQ&C 10/66-10/67 - 7/14
10870 Modena Dr.
Philadelphia, PA 19154-3916

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1/327 HHC T.F. 8/66-3/69 - 1/14
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Osterville, MA 02655-1322

Dr. Bradford E. Mutchler
1/327 HHC 11/66-11/67 - 7/14
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Paducah, KY 42001-4861

SSG John Pasquale
2/502 B 12/65-2/66 - 1/15
15 Indian Point Estates
Wheeling, WV 26003-4541

Charles E. Payne
2/327 HHC 1/66-9/66 - 7/14
218 61st Street
Va. Beach, VA 23451-2117

Theodore Penton
2/327 C 10/67-2/69 - 4/14
PO Box 244
Pearl River, LA 70452

Gale A. Shire
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P.O. Box 191
Kasilof, AK 99610-0191

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2/327 4/67-8/67 - 7/14
445 Franklin St., Apt 28
Athens, GA 30606-3086

John G. "Bud" Domagata
3/506 5/27 TFS 1/69-9/69 - 1/14
S7 640 Allbrite Dr.
Merrimac, WI 53561-9704

John C. Perry
1/30 ARTY B BTRY 7/66-7/67
- 7/14
2316 Lambs Run
Harrisville, WV 26362

Donald Singleton
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NAM Dr.
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1/327 A CO 7/66-7/67 - 4/14
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Danny Guthrie
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4/65-12/65 - 1/14
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Blairsville, GA 30512

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1824 Appalachian Hwy
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Address Corrections

June 4, 2013
through September 4, 2013

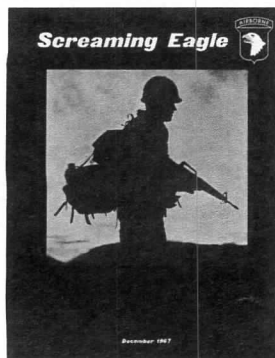
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7224 Godfrey Dr.
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Reprint of the December 1967 issue of THE SCREAMING EAGLE magazine. The magazine covers First Brigade (S) history from July 1965 through December 1967. See page 35 for order form.

See order form on Page 35.

FIRST BRIGADE SCRAPBOOK



The FIRST BRIGADE, 101st Airborne Division SCRAPBOOK was compiled by Department of the Army "For Fighting Men too Busy to Keep Their Own!"

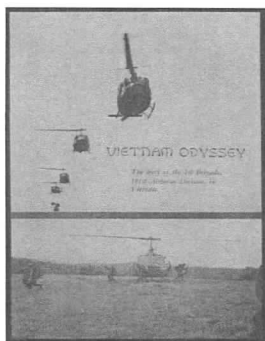
The SCRAPBOOK contains 105 8.5 x 11 inch pages and is three hole punched ready to be secured in a regular three ring notebook. Great care was taken to make copies that are true to the original.

Cost is \$15.00 per copy postpaid. See the order form on page 35.

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

The story of the first year of action of the 1st Brigade in Vietnam is filled with photos of brigade activities written accounts of all operations, drawings by brigade artists, statistics and other interesting personal and unit material.

The book was edited by ILT 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.

If you wish to obtain a copy of VIETNAM ODYSSEY, postpaid, send a check for \$15.00 to: The First Screaming Eagles in Viet Nam, P.O. Box 675, Sweetwater, TN 37874.



This edition of the DIPLOMAT AND WARRIOR was sent to me by CPT Barry Hana, HQ-PIO 3/67-3/68. It is a four page edition and 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, ANYBODY GOT A SPARE? Photo by William P. Singley, BDE HQ PIO 67

Page 2, NCO Knocked Down 5 Times During Red Mortar Attack by ***Daniel S. Stroebel, BDE HQ PIO dates?? **Trooper Plans To Fight For Duration Of War** Story about Benito R. Garcia, Jr., 2/327 A 66-67 (see story about his family beginning on page 30 in the January 2013 edition). **LRRP's Train 'Recruits' In Guerilla Warfare** Photo by ***Daniel S. Stroebel, BDE HQ PIO dates??

Page 3, SUGAR DELIGHT photo and **MARKING THE MISSION** photo by William P. Singley, BDE HQ PIO 67.

Page 4, Drivers Pick-Up Would-Be VC 'Rustlers' During Cattle Drive Peter Pepper, 2/327 A 8/66-3/68, **LTC (R) Ramon E. Millard, 2/327 CO B 1/67-1/68, COL (R) William J. Northquest, 1/327 C 6/66-12/67.

Editor's Note: I have been searching for Daniel S. Stroebel, BDE HQ PIO for a number of years and would appreciate any help anyone can give in finding him.

* = Dropped Subscriber, ** = Never Subscribed and *** = Unable to contact



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Presidential Citation To 'Strike Force' Battalion

The First Brigade
DIPLOMAT AND WARRIOR
Published Weekly For The 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division
VOL. II, No. 1 VIET NAM JULY 1, 1967

First Unit Citation Awarded Bde Battalion For Viet Nam

WASHINGTON D.C.—The 2d Battalion, 502d Infantry has been awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for September 1965 operations near An Khe, Viet Nam.

"The gallantry, determination and esprit de corps of the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry in close combat against numerically superior enemy forces is in keeping with highest traditions of the U.S. Army and reflects great credit upon the unit and the Armed Forces of the United States," the citation reads.

The operation smashed two main force Viet Cong battalions, and resulted in 259 enemy dead.

Extraordinary Heroism

The citation won by the 2/502d was awarded for "extraordinary heroism in action against hostile forces in the Republic of Viet Nam Sept. 18-19, 1965 during Operation Gibraltar," according to the citation.

It says the battalion was ordered on Sept. 18 to conduct a helicopter assault and make contact with and destroy a Viet Cong battalion operating in the mountains east of An Khe.

"During the initial phase of the battle, the enemy fire killed the battalion's operations officer and one of the company commanders, and hit over half the helicopters.

Repelled Attacks

"In the first hours of the battle," the decoration order continues, "isolated elements of the battalion fought off frequent attacks by enemy forces of larger size, with small unit leaders often directing airstrikes within 50 meters of their own positions."

The battalion held the position all day and the following night, repelling nine enemy attacks, and then linked up with another ground element that had been airlifted into the area the next morning.

"Despite the loss of key leaders," the account says, "the battalion's personnel manifested initiative, determination and the will to survive during the entire action."

VC Sleeping On Guard Caught By Alert Tiger Force

DUC PHO (1/327-10) — Two Viet Cong were caught sleeping on guard by Tiger Force recently near here during Operation Malheur II.

Pointman, Specialist 4 Clyde K. Coberman, Lincoln, Kan., spotted an M-1 rifle leaning against the wall of a hut beside a trail.

Sergeant Allen M. Logan, Birmingham, Ala., moved forward and the two para-

troopers spotted another rifle. Cautiously they approached the hut. They could see one VC sleeping near the door. Another slept on the mat.

When the Tigers reached the hut, both VC awoke. One reached for his rifle, one tried to flee. Both were stopped by bursts from the paratroopers' M-16 rifles.



VALLEY LOOKOUT—Paratroopers of the 101st Airborne survey the Song Ve river valley below, providing security for search and destroy sweeps during Operation Malheur II. The Screaming Eagles have accounted for more than 600 enemy kills since joining Task Force Oregon in I Corps. (US Army by SP4 Alva Tate)

Eagles Sponsor Students

School For 88 Viets Thanks To Spt Bn

PHAN RANG — Eighty-eight Vietnamese students will enroll in Truong Vinh Ky High School this August because paratroopers of the brigade's Support Battalion have guaranteed their tuition.

A total of 296,080 piasters were contributed by 79 Screaming Eagles. In five instances, the same individual is sponsoring more than one student.

Lieutenant Colonel Quinton P. Sunday, Eufaula, Okla., battalion commander, said a majority of the students and their American sponsors will gather for special "open house" programs during the school year to encourage growing friendships between the students and the American paratroopers.

1/327 Trooper Saves Buddy As Mortar Shells Fall

by SP4 Daniel S. Stroebel
DUC PHO — A quick-thinking paratrooper saved his buddy's life near here by giving him mouth-to-mouth resuscitation for nearly two hours.

Private First Class Ronald E. Allen, Los Angeles, Company B, 1/327 was a member

of a relief force responding to aid a pinned down element. As their helicopter settled for a landing, it received a heavy volume of enemy fire, disabling the craft and wounding several of the men aboard.

Allen crawled into the door-gunner's seat and began firing the machine gun to cover

other paratroopers evacuating the wounded from the helicopter. As the wounded were pulled back to safe positions, Allen was hit by mortar fragments.

Private First Class David L. Fields, also from Los Angeles, ran to the chopper where Allen was slumped behind the machine gun.

He carried Allen to a more safe position, stopped the profuse bleeding, then checked to see if Allen's breathing was normal. When he found little or no respiration, Fields began mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

Mortar shells continued to rain on their position.

"One mortar round exploded eight feet away, lifting both of us six inches off the ground," said Fields, "and when we hit the ground I chipped two of my teeth on Allen's mouth."

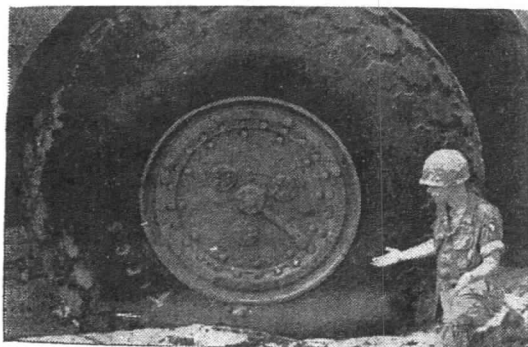
When the medical evacuation helicopter arrived, medics found Fields had sustained fragment wounds in his leg. The two wounded men were extracted to the medical clearing station with Fields con-

tinuing his life-saving treatment as they flew.

Doctors of 326th Medical Detachment treated both men. Fields rejoined his unit, Allen was evacuated to 67th Evacuation Hospital in Qui Nhon for further treatment. At last report, Allen was making excellent progress toward recovery.

He told a reporter Fields saved his life.

Fields' only comment: "He was my buddy. He'd have done the same for me."



ANYBODY GOT A SPARE?—Private First Class Dayle Edwards, Las Cruces, N.M., doesn't know quite how to handle this flat. The tire belongs to a LARC which transports supplies from ships to the beach near here in support of the 101st Airborne's Operation Malheur II. (US Army Photo by SP4 William P. Singley)

'Above The Rest'

NCO Knocked Down 5 Times During Red Mortar Attack

by SP4 Daniel Stroebel

DUC PHO — "The only thing we had for cover was a blade of grass," said Platoon Sergeant Raymond Williams, Detroit, as he recounted how his platoon, Company B, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry withstood a VC mortar attack near here.

The paratroopers air assaulted onto a bare knoll during Operation Malheur II. The enemy, entrenched behind a tree line, opened up with automatic weapons, wounding the platoon leader. Sergeant Williams immediately maneuvered his paratroopers to assault the estimated Viet Cong platoon. Then the mortar barrage began.

"When I heard the first explosion I thought it was a grenade," Williams recalled. "It went off right behind us."

The veteran paratrooper, who carries mortar shrapnel in his leg from the Korean War, quickly detected the pattern of fire and withdrew his platoon.

"I watched the first three rounds explode and realized it was a bracketed pattern. But still there was no place to find cover."

One round exploded nearby. Fragments hit the sergeant in the back, others around him also were hit. Williams ordered a move to the other side of the hill.

"There was no cover there either," said Private First Class Carl S. Coulthare, North Windham, Maine, "there wasn't a tree on that damn hill."

Mortar rounds continued falling. Some fell within six feet of the platoon. Many were hit, few seriously.

"I was knocked down at least five times by those

explosions," said Sergeant Williams. "It was a miracle I wasn't hurt seriously."

Three paratroopers were killed and 27 wounded, including the platoon sergeant. Williams was evacuated to the medical clearing station and treated for his minor wounds. The next morning he was anxious to board the chopper that took him back to his platoon.

"I've got to get back to my men," he said, "we'll get Charlie in the next round."

Trooper Plans To Fight For Duration Of War

DUC PHO—Private First Class Benito R. Garcia Jr., Hartlingen, Tex., enjoys serving in Viet Nam. He's been in country 35 months, most of the time on line duty.

"I like the boonies and jungles," says Garcia, a paratrooper of the 101st Airborne. "I see no reason for



GUIDED LANDING—A helicopter of the 176th Aviation Company receives expert guidance from a paratrooper of the 101st Airborne during Operation Malheur II near here. The "Minuteman" of the 176th have supported the Screaming Eagles during Malheur I and II as part of Task Force Oregon in I Corps. (US Army Photo by SP4 Alva Tate)

sending a soldier with no combat experience to replace me when I can stay just as easily."

Garcia's awards include the Bronze Star Medal with V Device, the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry and Purple Heart with three Oak Leaf Clusters.

"The North Vietnamese come here to fight for the duration of the war," says Garcia. "I think I should stay as long as the fighting lasts too."

Garcia plans to stay that long. He just saw the career counselor about a six-month extension.

LRRP's Train 'Recruits' In Guerilla Warfare

DUC PHO — The Long Range Reconnaissance Platoon of the 1st Brigade recently initiated a nine-day retraining and orientation program to familiarize new LRRP's with the conduct of guerilla warfare and the concept involved with long range recon missions. The training program was instituted due to a 60 per cent personnel turnover.

The fundamentals of survival on reconnaissance missions are being taught to new platoon members who will be participating in LRRP activities in the field—first aid, communications, map reading, patrolling, artillery adjustment and gunshot strikes, hand to hand combat and helicopter insertion and

extraction techniques.

Specialist 4 Joe M. Remiro, San Francisco, a transfer from the 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry who recently joined the LRRP's commented on the training.

"It was the best training I've ever had. No frills or fancy stuff, just down-to-

earth facts," said Remiro.

A veteran of seven months with the Recondo platoon, and 10 months with the "P" school in Phan Rang, Sergeant Ronald H. Weems, Chicago, stated; "I believe that this training will be largely responsible for the proficiency of the LRRP team."

Second Lieutenant Daniel

Piasters For School Donated By Spt Bn

PHAN RANG—The men of Support Battalion have pledged 124,000 piasters for the construction of a new three-room school in Tap Cham near here.

At a recent meeting of the Buu Son Sub-Sector Headquarters, Support Battalion Civil Affairs Officer Captain Wes Grosebeck, Salt Lake City, presented one-half of the pledge to Mr. Khoi, chairman of the school construction committee. In his remarks to the committee, Captain Grosebeck said it is the desire of Support Battalion that the new school will become a growing symbol of learning and always be a symbol of goodwill and friendship between the Republic of Viet Nam and the United States.

The school will be constructed by Vietnamese craftsmen in the Tap Cham community with technical assistance by the Americans. When the school building is completed in September, it will provide educational facilities for 200 children.

J. McIssac, Boston, the 24-year-old LRRP leader summed up his ultimate goal with this statement:

McIssac said, "Through this training we hope to achieve an effective combat unit capable of carrying out worthwhile reconnaissance missions for the 1st Brigade.



KILLING BLOW—Second Lieutenant Daniel McIssac, Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol leader from Boston, demonstrates a karate chop while conducting hand-to-hand combat classes. The LRRP's of the 101st Airborne have conducted two daring raids on VC villages in Operation Malheur II near here. (US Army Photo by SP4 Daniel Stroebel)

DIPLOMAT and WARRIOR

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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

Brigade And 'Oregon' Covered By Magazine

DUC PHO — The following mention of the 101st Airborne and Task Force Oregon was carried in TIME magazine:

"...Buried in the rush of news from the Middle East were reports of the outstanding success of a grab-bag unit of U.S. Army troopers operating under the unusual designation of "Task Force Oregon," after the home state of its commander, Major General William B. Rossen, 48. Pieced together six weeks ago, the task force is General Westmoreland's answer to a rapidly deteriorating situation in Quang Ngai, a Communist-infested province in troublesome I Corps. The four South Vietnamese battalions in Quang Ngai were far too weak to cope with 12,000 local Viet Cong, who had been bolstered by two newly arrived North Vietnamese divisions. The U.S. Marines, who usually policed the province, were rushing to the north to fend off a threatened invasion across the DMZ.

Pile-On Tactic. Lacking a spare division to meet the

challenge, General Westmoreland pulled together paratroopers from the 101st Airborne Division, tanks from the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, riflemen from the 25th Infantry Division and the 196th Light Infantry Brigade. Last month the division-strength hybrid moved north into the thickly covered foothills and verdant coastal plain of Quang Ngai.

Almost every place the new outfit went, it found the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese waiting in ambush or entrenched in deep, multitunneled bunkers. Employing a "pile-on" tactic—to find the enemy and then pile on more men and firepower until Charlie or his Northern neighbors were crushed—Oregon's troopers proved to be bruising hunters. Last week, as elements of the 101st Airborne began a new sweep (Malheur II) through central Quang Ngai, the task force had killed 1,520 enemy while suffering only 134 losses itself, for one of the highest kill ratios of the war...



SUGAR DELIGHT — Sergeant Lee D. Williams, Birmingham, Ala., a paratrooper of the 101st Airborne, savors the sweetness of sugar cane during Operation Malheur II in the Song Ve river valley.

(US Army Photo by SP4 William P. Singley)

'No Slack'

Smoke Repels Bee 'Attack'

DUC PHO—"Look out!", a paratrooper yelled. "Head for cover!" A dozen soldiers of Company A, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry, dived for safety.

The paratroopers were involved in a sweep of the Song Ve river valley, gathering refugees for movement to a relocation camp in Nghia Henh when they came under an unexpected attack.

Instead of the rattle of automatic weapons the only sound of battle was a furious buzzing. One of the soldiers disturbed a nest of bees and they were routing the troopers.

"Throw a smoke grenade at them!" suggested Specialist 4 Will Young, East St. Louis, Ill.

First Lieutenant Bennie L. Jagers, Springfield, Mo., a battalion S-5 officer, braved the bee onslaught and tossed a purple smoke grenade into the midst of the "enemy".

Soon the bees were in full retreat, leaving the area to the paratroopers.

Bird Dog Pilots Act As 'Eyes Of The Eagle'

by SP4 William P. Singley

DUC PHO—10:30 a.m.—the single engine O-1 Bird Dog aircraft lifts easily into the sky above the village of Duc Pho.

It carries one person, Major Harvey Blanton Jr., Acton, Mass., one of six Air Force

pilots who fly the Forward Air Control (FAC) missions for the 1st Brigade.

The FAC mission for the day was a pre-planned bomb strike on a suspected Viet Cong area at 12:35 p.m. The first hour and a half was routine. Major Blanton made

radio contact with the ground troops and maneuvered the aircraft in wide circles above the jungle.

"It gets routine when nothing is happening," said the 10-year veteran of jet flying. With map on his lap and the terrain below, the major used

powerful binoculars searching for enemy movements of fortifications. He found nothing. The pre-planned strike would take place.

Suddenly Major Blanton received a message from Company A, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry. The infantrymen had encountered an enemy force of an unknown size on a hilltop. He glanced down to where the troops were fighting. The jungle canopy hid everything.

Calmly, Major Blanton cancelled the pre-planned strike and gave the waiting fighters the new target.

On this mission he had to transmit to an alternate ground radio which relayed his words to Company A.

The small plane streaked toward the ground as the infantrymen marked their position with a smoke grenade. A white phosphorous rocket blasted from beneath the Bird Dog's wing to mark the enemy's position. The major checked again to be sure the paratroopers were not in the danger zone of the attacking fighters. Then he called in the jets.

One by one the F-100's came in, magnificent in their fury and power, to saturate the enemy's position with 750-pound bombs and 20 millimeter cannon fire. In three

passes the planes tore great chunks in the lush jungle.

"It sounds beautiful," said the elated paratroopers from the ground.

As the jets roared by, the Bird Dog circled above the Americans on the ground. "We have to watch out for the jets," said Major Blanton. "They're too busy and going too fast to see us."

In less than 10 minutes the attack was over. The enemy threat to the ground troops was eliminated. The Bird Dog dropped low to estimate the damage and maintain surveillance on a jungle clearing where earlier wounded Americans were to be lifted out by helicopter.

From the radio the major learned his relief was in the sky. First Lieutenant Jack Baker, Shreveport, La., arrived in an identical plane. Both planes flew in formation as Major Blanton briefed his replacement.

A short flight back to Duc Pho.

"We're all fighter pilots and prefer the jets," says Major Blanton, "but flying FAC gives you more satisfaction by seeing and hearing the results of your mission. It's more satisfying to be close to the man on the ground and we'll do anything we can to help him."



MARKING THE MISSION—Major Harvey Blanton Jr., Acton, Mass., uses the window of his OH-1 Bird Dog to mark a pre-planned air strike. For three cramped hours, the forward air control pilot patrols the skies above the paratroopers of the 101st Airborne while they conduct Operation Malheur II near here. (US Army Photo by SP4 William P. Singley)

'Keep Those Dogies Rollin'

Drovers Pick-Up Would-Be VC 'Rustlers' During Cattle Drive

DUC PHO—Paratroopers of the 101st Airborne swept the VC-infested Song Ve river valley near here recently to extract Vietnamese civilians from communist control and reestablish their identity with the Republic of Viet Nam government.

For a week preceding the operation, leaflets and loudspeaker appeals explained to the villagers the paratroopers were coming. The valley residents were told where they were going, how to get ready, and when the Americans arrived, the people were ready.

While evacuating the 5,715 men, women and children, the Screaming Eagles rounded up 1,196 head of cattle and water buffalo and drove the herd for the owners to the plains near Nghia Hanh. The 2/502 and 2/327 coaxed, cussed, and cajoled the cattle 11 kilometers up the valley to a rendezvous point with troops of the 1/327, who drove the herd the final five kilometers to waiting Republic of Viet Nam forces for the final push to Nghia Hanh.

Cattle Get "No Slack"

Captain Peter P. C. V. Pepper, Santa Barbara, Calif., was the trail boss for 2/327. His troopers in Company A swept the east side of the twisting river while the Hawks, Bravo, and Charlie companies protected the flank. The second day, Captain Ramon E. Millard, St Louis, led Bravo in a follow-up sweep.

Interpreters carrying loudspeakers led the way into each village. The result of the preceding leaflet orientation effort was successful as the villagers were packed and ready. A platoon of Civilian Irregular Defense Group (CIDG) advised by Special Forces Sergeant Willie D. Stephens, Mariana, Fla., was credited with helping ease apprehension and speeding the civilian evacuation. The villagers also cooperated by pointing out seven confirmed VC, rice caches and hidden mines. "Our troopers wouldn't have detected some of those VC or found the mines," noted Staff Sergeant Dannie E. Bailey, Hardy, Kan.

The drive gave the paratroopers a chance to hoot and holler. "I never thought I'd be drawing combat pay for herding cows," quipped Specialist 4 Stephen L. Langtree, Lansing, Mich.

Drovers of the "O-Deuce"

Over on the west bank of the Song Ve, Companies A and

C, 2/502 encountered light sniper fire as the paratroopers began pushing 175 cattle and water buffalo toward the mountain pass to the north.

Staff Sergeant Ulia J. Cole, Vivay, Ind., said his platoon fell into the spirit of the drive. "Head 'em up; move 'em out; got to be a standard joke with the men," chuckled the veteran platoon sergeant.

"It sure was different from anything we had done before," joked Specialist 4 Chris M. Caprari, Litchfield, Conn.

Private First Class Albert S. Jobs, Baltimore, agreed. "I couldn't believe the Vietnamese were actually packed and ready to go, but they were." The previous week, Jobs had been pulling people out of tunnels and caves. "There was a lot of running around, but I thought it was fun and enjoyed it," he added.

On the third day of the drive, "Strike Force" troopers of Company A captured a Viet Cong carrying shotgun ammunition and a face mask.

Sergeant Cole summed it up by saying "It got to the point where you couldn't walk past one of those cows without getting eyeballed. Sometimes they would just saunter over and investigate what you were doing."

Another trooper commented: "We just kept those dogies rollin'."

1/327 Rounds 'em Up

At the north end of the valley, 1/327th waited at the rendezvous point for the herd and the last leg of "The Chisholm Trail" drive.

"It sure was nothing like driving cows back in Texas," said Private First Class Walter Mitchell, Granbury, Tex. "Cattle don't like moving through water and we had to

drive 'em through rice paddies."

Sometimes the herd tried to break up and head off in different directions. "They had never been driven before," said Private First Class Terry Kerrigan, Malibu, Calif., who rode broncos in rodeos back home. "Many tried to go back to their villages; we just kept rounding them up."

A highlight of the drive

for Staff Sergeant Patrick Lacy, Dallas, was delivering a calf. "That's the way it happens out West," explained Lacy.

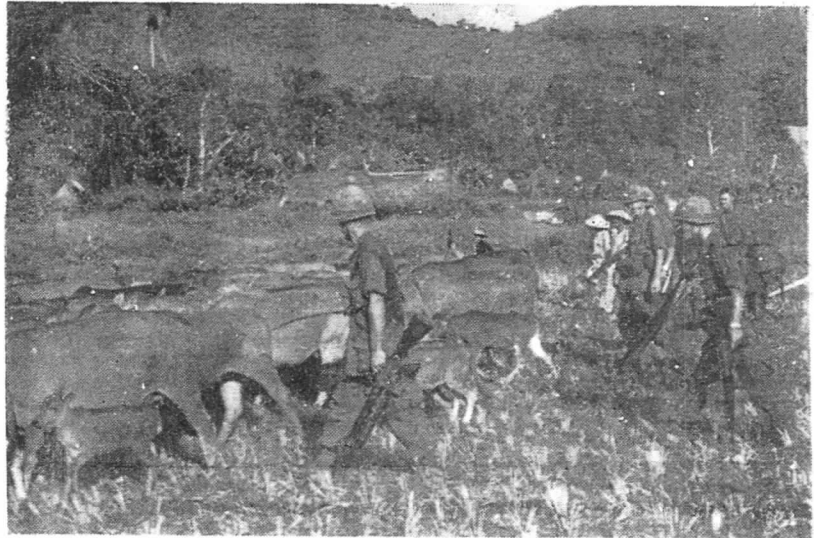
Captain William Northquest, Milwaukee, indicated he enjoyed his "trail boss" assignment. He suggested the Infantry Officer Career Course should include a session on how to punch cows.

The Song Ve valley operation was successful. Its people

and their possessions, including livestock, have been relocated in Nghia Hanh.

First Lieutenant Bennie L. Jagear, Springfield, Mo., civil affairs officer for 2/327th summed it up this way: "With no one to work for them, no food or other supplies, the VC will have to move."

When they do, the Screaming Eagles will be waiting.



AIRBORNE DROVERS—Paratroopers of the 101st Airborne drive cattle from the Song Ve river valley to the refugee center at Nghia Hanh to join their owners. The Screaming Eagles relocated 5,715 refugees and 1,196 head of cattle and water buffalo.

(US Army Photo by PFC James Nelson)

VC Surrenders, Leads Troops To Cache During Sweep Of Song Ve Valley

DUC PHO—While checking a village in the Song Ve river valley during a phase of operation Malheur II, paratroopers of the 1st Brigade

encountered a surrendering Viet Cong.

PFC Ronald M. McCoy, Freeport, Tex., was searching a hut when he heard a noise behind him. "I turned around and there he was," said McCoy. "His hands were in the air and he was smiling. It really surprised me."

A Vietnamese interpreter at the scene interrogated the VC. The 21-year-old detainee cooperated fully. He claimed he had been fighting with the Cong for five years and led paratroopers to a hidden automatic weapon and a basketful of explosives. It was well concealed in a ditch outside a nearby village.

Engineers of Company A of the 326th Engineers detonated the explosives. "There were 19 aircraft rockets in the basket and a handful of igniters," said Sergeant Jack J. Munroe, Newport, R.I.

The weapon was taken out

of VC hands and the rockets were destroyed, thanks to the cooperative Viet Cong detainee.

Tanks Add Firepower To Bde's 17th Cav

DUC PHO (17th Cav-IO)—A platoon of tanks from the 34th Armor has been providing added firepower to Troop A of the 17th Cavalry since paratroopers of the 101st Airborne entered I Corps and launched Operation Malheur I and II.

The five M-48A3 tanks have been used as security for the beach supply point and brigade perimeter.

Commanded by First Lieutenant Matthew Giordano, Syracuse, N.Y., the 3rd Platoon of Troop C, 2d Squadron has been welcomed by the cavalrymen. The platoon formerly was attached to the 3rd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division.



STUBBORN STRAY—Specialist 4 Robert Ferguson, Wagner, Okla., turns a stray back towards the herd being driven from the Song Ve river valley by paratroopers of the 101st Airborne. The sweep through the valley allowed the relocation of 5,715 refugees and movement of 1,196 head of their cattle and water buffalo.

(US Army Photo by PFC James Nelson)

and that I couldn't stop them. So, my advice is – never have an operation near an anniversary date.

I really enjoy your magazine (my magazine). The 1st Brigade is something to be remembered and celebrated. Airborne!

Editor's Note: A poem "I Died in Viet Nam" by Arthur Kottke was published on page 10 of the July 2006 issue of "The First Screaming Eagles In Viet Nam."

+ SFC(R) SANTANA CARNERO, 1/327 HHQ TF 11/65-7/67, 303 S. Teresa, Monahans, TX 79756-7111, (915) 943-8142 wrote: I am sending some photos of the Tiger Force Reunion held at Blackhawk, Colorado. I am sure all the Tigers and their wives enjoyed it. Nyal and Judy did a great job and had a fine (great) dinner for all of us at their place.

Hope I can make the next reunion and that it will be as enjoyable as this one but hope to see more Tigers.

Thanks for the great publication of "The Always First Brigade Screaming Eagle." I have every copy even if I didn't find out about it until late. Your staff did a great job of getting me all the back issues. Thanks again.

Enclosed is my subscription fee for next year.

**Tiger Force Reunion
7 July 2013, Isle Casino, Blackhawk, Colorado**



****Lance Matsumonji, **Ken Kratzberg, +Santana Carnero, **James Raysor, **Nyal Brown, ***Steve Merrill, +Tommy Kellogg and **Guy Waller.



****Leo Heany (?sp?), ****Lance Matsumonji and +Tom Rosales.

Also in attendance but no photo was **Dan Clint, +Harold Trout and ***Ken Webb.

+ = Subscriber, * = Dropped Subscriber, ** = Never Subscribed, *** = Unable to contact, **** = Not in database

Editor's Note: The following e-mail from SSG Donald Heckathorn is pretty clear and does not pertain to First Brigade (S). If you can help him find a photo of LTC Jack R. Snow it would help make the past commanders photo in First Brigade Headquarters more complete. When this message was sent the Brigade was in the process of returning to Fort Campbell.

My name is SSG Heckathorn. I am the Brigade Engineer for 1st Brigade 101st Airborne. I have been attempting unsuccessfully, for about the past four months in locating a picture of LTC Robert R. Snow or he possibly goes by LTC Jack R. Snow (Including Internet, Pratt Museum, S-1, and 327 Organization) for our past Bastogne Brigade Commander Board. He served in that position from January 1972 – April 1972 around the time operations in Vietnam were wrapping up. His predecessor was LTG Robert Arter and his successor was COL James Lillard.

If anyone has a picture of him, or perhaps knows how I might be able to contact him or someone who can contact him for me and send a picture of him during that era, I would be extremely grateful.

Thank you.

SSG Heckathorn, Donald
1BCT ENG / FMT / EQO / IRT / HHC EO / HHC FW
Bldg 3780, RM 111, 53rd St.
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C: 619.990.5197
O: 270.956.2009

E: donald.g.heckathorn.mil@mail.mil

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 35

OBITUARIES



Reba Lindsey
Wife of + Johnnie C. Lindsey DMOR
1/327 INF HHC & C 8/66-8/67

Reba Ryan Lindsey, 68, of Texarkana, Texas, died Wednesday, May 22, 2013, in a local hospital.

Mrs. Lindsey was born Dec. 13, 1944, in Camden, New Jersey. She was a member of Vietnam Veterans of America Auxiliary, Veterans of Foreign Affairs, American

Legion Auxiliary and 101st Airborne Division Vietnam Veterans Organization. She was preceded in death by one son, Ricky Denny.

Survivors include her husband, Johnnie Lindsey of Texarkana; two stepchildren, Michael P. Lindsey and Gwen C. Lindsey of Modesto, Calif.; one brother, Carl Ryan of San Antonio and one sister, Lelia Ryan of Fort Worth, Texas.

No services were scheduled. Arrangements were under direction of East Funeral Home, Downtown.

Memorials may be made to Wounded Warrior Project.

Published: 05/24/2013 **Texarkana Gazette**



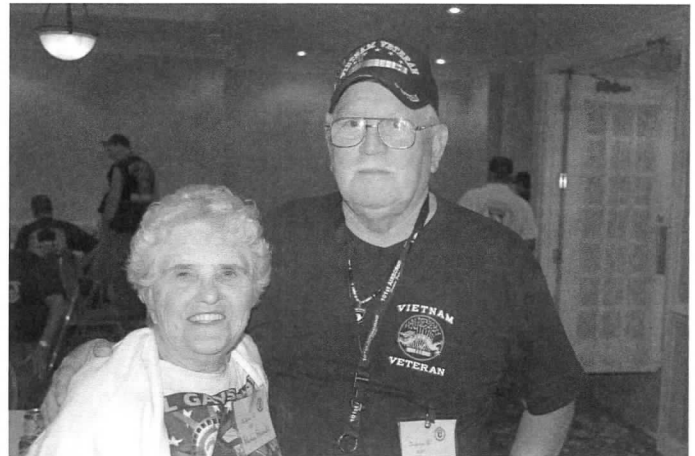
Reba and Johnnie C. Lindsey DMOR, 1/327 INF HHC & C 8/66-8/67, at the 101st Airborne Division Vietnam Veterans Association reunion held in North Charleston, South Carolina.

+ Ray L. Strength
2/327 HQ 7/65-8/66

Mst. Sgt. Ray Lee Strength, 74, of Tupelo, Mississippi, died unexpectedly, May 30, 2013, at Lake Willemina near Plantersville. He was born in Brackettville, Texas, graduated from Brewton High School, Brewton,

Alabama, and joined the Alabama National Guard.

A patriotic American serving in the U.S. Army 101st Airborne, Master Sergeant Strength retired in 1978 after 20 years active duty. He completed his basic training at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, and ended his career at Fort Polk, Louisiana. His service included many meritorious medals and commendations. He married Shirley Anthony after he returned from service and they owned and operated 45 Stop & Shop in Shannon. He was a former member of the VFW and founder and longtime President of the local Vietnam Veterans of America affiliate which his colleagues honored him by naming it Ray Strength Chapter 842. Retired Mst. Sgt. Strength was pure military and supported all local and national causes for veterans including the Tupelo Veterans Park on Veterans Boulevard and, at his death, was actively involved in securing the Vietnam Veterans Wall Project to Veterans Park. A Baptist by faith, Ray enjoyed fishing and hunting, all outdoor activity, military reunions and talking and telling stories.



Ray and Shirley Strength

Survivors include his wife of 31 years Shirley; five children: Linda Hall, Marie Owers (Howard), Don Strength, Ray Strength, Jr., all of Leesville, LA and John Strength (Denise) of Sugar Land, TX. Stepchildren: Terry Anthony (Becky) of Tupelo, MS and Mike Anthony (Sandy) of Albany, GA. He had six grandchildren, three step-grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren. His parents, two brothers and his grandson Jamie Hall preceded Ray in death.

Services were held on June 3, 2013 – Holland Funeral Directors, Tupelo Chapel. Chaplain, Dr. Jerry Goldsborough officiated. Pallbearers were the Honor Guard from Fort Polk, LA, and Honorary Pallbearers were the past and present members of the Vietnam Veterans Association of America. Burial was at Lee Memorial Park with a full military salute immediately following the service.



+ Dennis M. Wells
2/501 B 67-68

Notice was received that Dennis M. Wells passed away on November 7, 2012. No other information was given. Condolences may be sent to Ms. Carlene Wells, 1895B Buffalo Slough Trl, Welch, MN 55089-9633.

**** Russell Sterling Whitman III
1/327 HQ 7/67-7/69**

Russell S. Whitman III, 65 years old of Phoenix, Arizona, passed away on March 22, 2013, at his favorite place, Rocky Point, Mexico. He was born in New London, Connecticut, on August 4th 1947. He grew up on military bases throughout the United States. When his father retired from the US Army his family settled in Phoenix. Russell lived there the rest of his life.

He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Sylvia, son Russell IV and daughter Jennifer, grandchildren, Jordan, Nickolas, Breanna and Alexandra. Four brothers, two sisters, many loving nieces and nephews also survive him.

In December 1966, Russell enlisted in the U.S. Army where he became a member of the 101st Airborne Division. He served in Vietnam from 14 July 1967 through 18 July 1969 with Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division. He was promoted to sergeant (E-5) in October 1968. He participated in seven foreign campaigns. Russell was proud of his service to his country. One of his favorite trips was when he took his grandsons to Washington, DC, to visit the Vietnam Memorial.

He was loved and respected by his extended family at Lindco Equipment where he retired in 2009, after 37 years. He loved the outdoors where he enjoyed golfing, hunting, fishing, camping and boating with his family, brother-in-laws and friends. He enjoyed working with kids and coached Little League, Pop Warner football and girls' softball and women's softball. He was an avid ASU fan.

A memorial service was held on April 2nd, 2013, at St. Agnes Catholic Church with a military burial following at the National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona in Phoenix, Arizona.

from **THE SCREAMING EAGLE MAGAZINE –
SUMMER 2013 issue**

+ = Subscriber, * = Dropped Subscriber, ** = Never Subscribed

Information Office
1st Bde, 101st Abn Div
Capt P.W. Apfel

FIVE STAR FLASH

PHAN RANG, Viet Nam (delayed) December 17 (101-IO) – “This is Radio Hanoi. I have a flash for the boys of the “Screaming Eagles.” Attention: 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. I am coming to dinner at the Brigade Mess Hall Christmas Eve. And guess who I’m having for dinner!”

With a statement “something” similar to that the beloved “Hanoi Hanna” spoke over .77-.79 mega-cylces SW, Radio Hanoi, and began her act. Dispensing advice on how to win the war by losing it, she spoke to her most “adhering fans – the American GI’s.

Hanna stands in the infamous tradition of Axis Sally and Tokyo Rose. Exclaiming to the listening world of the many American “invaders” the Viet Cong have killed – annihilated – massacred – (six infantry divisions since October by Hanna’s count – plus some odds and ends – that’s about 90,000 men, not including the odds or the ends!). Her news is so outlandish and preposterous as to be of great moral support to we American troops.

Each evening about 6 PM, she signs on and broadcasts in English. At An Ninh (where the Army’s 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division fought on the 17th and 18th of September, 1965) she was heard to say that 500 of the 101st’s paratroopers had been annihilated in the action of the 17th and 18th. Funny thing is, only 204 men participated.

Only a week or so ago, Hanoi proclaimed a “truce” to be effective from 7 PM Christmas Eve to 7 AM Christmas Day, so that the good people of Vietnam could attend church. This “truce” is to be effective only if the Americans did not commence any aggressive action against the people to Vietnam.

A spokesman for the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division gave the following statement: “Hanoi Hanna is cordially invited to come to Christmas Eve dinner at the Brigade Mess Hall. A warm reception will most certainly be accorded her. As for who she will have for dinner, we don’t know. We do know, however, who we will have for dessert if she does come!”



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 35.



Dedicated to all the fightin' RTO's who have served,
are now serving, or who will serve as members of the
"STRIKE FORCE"

THE RTO
By "Gunslinger"

When you're movin' in the column
And you hear the snipers crack
You know you're a damn good target
With the radio on your back
With the whip above you wavin'
Like a flag upon the mast
You can hear the bullets whistle
You can hear the Mausers blast
You would rather nail Charlie
But you got the radio
And you gotta send the message
So you grit your teeth and go
That's all in the line of duty
You're the unknown RTO.

When you're layin' out in ambush
And you hear a call come in
And you fumble in the darkness
And the squelch comes singin' on
All can hear the sound for miles
Charlie's spooked and gone for sure
And you wish the radio in hell
And gone for evermore
You can hear the muffled curses
"The RTO caused Charlie's flight"
"He just blew it all away"
But you keep your mouth shut tight
Cause they took their turn at sleepin'
While you stayed up most the night.

When you're humpin' through the jungle
And you hear the fight begin
The point man's sighted Charlie
And his rifle sings its tune
The RPD's are blazin'
And grenades add to the din
You're lettin' higher know the score
When Charlie slithers in
And whips his AK on you
And cuts loose a burst or two
And you zap him with your rifle
And the panic starts to grow
Did the bastard do some damage
To the damn old radio?

When you make an air assault
You're in chopper number one
If old Charlie's on the LZ
Your comrades you must warn
If a buddy there is wounded
For a dust off you must call
And direct the fire of gunships
So old Charlie they can maul
You're the key man when there's trouble
Your're forgotten when there's none
You must care for much equipment
Both the radio and your gun
But you have this satisfaction
You know it's a job well done.

The radio's a trouble
For an RTO to pack
It tangles in the jungle
And it nearly breaks your back
It's sensitive to the weather
Dust and moisture ridden air
It's like a flighty female
Wantin' tender loving care
But in spite of all your trouble
You're the one guy in the know
Cause you gather all the traffic
Passin' on the radio
You're the guy who keeps it going
You're the unknown RTO.



Colonel Frank Leslie Dietrich
Date of death: September 22, 1997
Burial location: Arlington, Virginia
Home of record: Michigan

Editor's Note: THE RTO poem was contributed by +Geoff Barker, HHC 10/66-4/68, who wrote that the poem, which he sent in the original, was distributed by "Gunslinger" in Viet Nam. Frank was a Special Forces B Team Leader in the 10th Special Forces Group when I was an A Team Leader.

Frank Leslie Dietrich
AWARDS AND CITATIONS



Distinguished Service Cross

Awarded for actions during the Vietnam War

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 Colonel (Infantry) Frank L. Dietrich (ASN: 0-78799/0-954068), United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam, while serving with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. Colonel Dietrich distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions during the period 9 to 11 November 1966 while commanding the 2d Battalion, 502d Infantry on a search and destroy operation near Tuy Hoa. On the morning of 9 November, he was informed that contact had been made with an entrenched North Vietnamese Army battalion. Quickly assessing the situation from a command and control helicopter, Colonel Dietrich brilliantly maneuvered his troops, and by nightfall the hostile force was surrounded. As the battle raged on into the next morning, he boldly joined his men on the ground. Unmindful of the extreme danger, he moved throughout the battlefield to assist his subordinate commanders and comfort the wounded. On 11 November Colonel Dietrich dauntlessly climbed to the top of a tree with a radio to direct the conflict. Remaining exposed in this perilous position for two hours, he courageously deployed the ground elements and supervised the broadcast of surrender appeals. As the battle progressed, he completely disregarded his safety by running across 100 meters of bullet-swept terrain, and led a successful assault on a stubborn North Vietnamese position. Then, accompanied only by his radio operator, Colonel Dietrich moved through 800 meters of dense jungle to another engaged platoon. Moving to the front, he again braved the intense insurgent fire to encourage his men forward. His unimpeachable valor and aggressive leadership under fierce hostile fire contributed immeasurably to the defeat of a determined hostile force. Lieutenant Colonel Dietrich'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, Vietnam, General Orders No. 496 (February 1, 1967)

Action Date: November 9 - 11, 1966

Service: Army

Rank: Colonel

Company: Headquarters and Headquarters Company

Battalion: 2d Battalion (Airborne)

Regiment: 502d Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade

Division: 101st Airborne Division



Silver Star

Awarded for actions during the World War II

(Citation Needed) - SYNOPSIS: Second Lieutenant Frank Leslie Dietrich (ASN: 0-78799/0-954068), United States Army, was awarded the Silver Star for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against the enemy while serving with the 504th Parachute Regiment, 82d Airborne Division during World War II.

General Orders: Headquarters, 82d Airborne Division, General Orders No. 51 (1944)

Action Date: World War II

Service: Army

Rank: Second Lieutenant

Regiment: 504th Parachute Regiment

Division: 82d Airborne Division

Silver Star

Awarded for actions during the Korean War

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918, takes pleasure in presenting a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster in lieu of a Second Award of the Silver Star to Second Lieutenant (Infantry) Frank Leslie Dietrich (ASN: 0-78799/0-954068), United States Army, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity as a member of the Heavy Mortar Company, 27th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division in Korea. On 24 July 1950 the Heavy Mortar Company, under severe tank-supported infantry attacks in the vicinity of Sangyang, Korea, was being provided tactical support by fighter aircraft whose strafing attacks were endangering the security of the company position. Observing that his company was unable to deliver fire because of the strafing, Lieutenant Dietrich moved forward under intense fire to display an identification panel. Strafing attacks ended abruptly and the Heavy Mortar Company resumed firing and repulsed the enemy attack. Lieutenant Dietrich's prompt and courageous action in this critical situation reflected great credit upon himself and his actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

General Orders: Headquarters, 25th Infantry Division, General Orders No. 55 (August 13, 1950)

Action Date: July 24, 1950

Service: Army

Rank: Second Lieutenant

Company: Heavy Mortar Company

Regiment: 27th Infantry Regiment

Division: 25th Infantry Division

AVBD-C

6 November 1966

SUBJECT: Combat Operations After Action Report, Operation SEWARD (RCS: MACV J3-32) (U)

d. The Brigade artillery mobile training teams continued training of indigenous forces during the period.

15. (C) Commanders Analysis:

a. Lessons Learned:

(1) When units are operating in a limited area, patterns of action must not be established. Tactical techniques must be varied in order to prohibit enemy forces from anticipating friendly movement or reaction.

(2) Company command posts must be relocated at least every forty-eight hours to safeguard against the enemy fixing the location and conducting raids. Enemy probing action against such locations at night is likely to be followed by an attack.

(3) When small units are halted for any extended period of time, every precaution must be taken, to include extensive use of LP's, OP's and early warning devices, to preclude a surprise enemy attack.

(4) The VC frequently, having conducted a successful operation at one location, will return to the location at a later date to conduct an identical operation. This applies particularly to raids and ambushes.

(5) When a patrol moves for an extended distance, consideration should be given to establishing hasty ambushes at irregular intervals behind the patrol. In many instances this technique will prove successful in surprising and destroying a following enemy.

(6) Units must insure that available communications are separated into two or more locations. In the event communication facilities at one location are destroyed by the enemy, an alternate means of communication will still exist.

(7) Following the extraction of friendly forces from an area of operation, the enemy frequently infiltrates back into the same locations from which he was previously routed. The technique of leaving a small "stay behind" force in the area, following the extraction of the majority of the unit, is often successful in trapping the returning enemy.

(8) IFW teams should be attached at battalion level in order to speed the segregation and processing of detainees.

(9) Interrogation techniques should be oriented on the local guerrilla in addition to the conventional EEI line of questioning. This can best be accomplished by having the unit commander prepare a list of questions which he would like the MI interrogator to ask the detainee.

(10) When clearing teams are required to clear a helicopter landing zone, valuable time can be saved by having an aviation representative present to provide guidance.

(11) Personnel should be extremely cautious upon discovering an obvious booby trap. This is often just bait for a better concealed, more effective booby trap.

(12) An effective technique which can be employed to clear a village is to surround it at night and use artillery illumination to flush out the VC. This method catches the enemy off guard and precludes

6 November 1966

having innocent civilians hamper troop movement.

(13) During the monsoon season, fords and by-passes are only fair weather friends. Heavy rains and rapid runoff make it virtually impossible to satisfactorily install culverts to maintain by-passes. The only satisfactory answer is bridging, or in some cases, rafting.

(14) The standard Medevac Request Form was revised by the Brigade to reduce the number of items from fourteen to seven. This revised form has proven to be simpler and more efficient than the old form.

b. Commanders Notes:

(1) Although the Brigade had an excellent kill rate in Operations JOHN PAUL JONES and SEWARD (208 VC KIA (BC) 239 VC KIA (BC) respectively. Our biggest problem has been and remains one of target acquisition. Our second major problem is the need to reduce reaction time once the enemy is detected.

(2) To improve our kill rate during forthcoming operations, battalion commanders and the cavalry troop commander will fully exploit, develop, and utilize the concept of "semi-guerrilla tactics". By this I mean we must become more like guerrillas, i.e., adopt guerrilla tactics, during search and destroy operations until contact is made. Then we remove the cloak of being a guerrilla and operate conventionally using all available firepower, mobility, and reserves.

(3) Listed below are some techniques of stealth, deception, and surprise which I desire be employed more fully in our forthcoming operations. I am confident that the airborne soldier, once imbued with the necessity to "out-guerrilla the guerrilla", will, with his native ingenuity and resourcefulness, devise additional effective techniques and tactics.

(a) Clandestine Entry into the Battlefield: Move into the battlefield by foot rather than ride by helicopter, the noise and sight of which reduce the possibility of surprise. Enter the battlefield at night.

(b) Night Operations: Steal the night away from the guerrilla. Night airmobile assaults, ambushes, patrols, and movement must become routine.

(c) Stay Behind Forces: When a unit is extracted following an engagement, leave or insert a stay behind force on the battlefield.

(d) Long Range Reconnaissance Patrols (LRRP's): More aggressive and frequent employment on long range missions. Insert at dusk or dawn along likely avenues of enemy movement; vary on occasion by insertion overland and resupply by air drop. Experiment with platoon size LRRP's to provide for an immediate offensive capability when enemy is sighted.

(e) Reinforce Rather than Extract: When a stay behind force or a LRRP makes contact, plan to reinforce promptly rather than extract. For this, employ an immediate reaction force (platoon) on air strip alert with helicopters on stand-by, or insert platoons in advance on the ground concurrently with the LRRP or stay behind unit. The platoon and helicopter pilots on air strip alert must be briefed in as much detail as possible and motivated to react promptly.

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(f) Reaction Force: Since the helicopter reveals the presence of US forces, C&C ships should not be the first helicopters in the area in which a reaction force is to be committed. As long as there is excellent radio communications, the first helicopter in the area should carry combat troops. Upon arrival at an LZ the reaction force should promptly move out to block enemy escape routes while final coordination is being made between the unit on the ground and the reaction force commander.

(g) Limit Helicopter Traffic: Provide stay behind forces, LRRP's, and units entering battlefield clandestinely with a minimum of 3 to 5 days rations to obviate need for helicopter resupply which promptly telegraphs to the enemy the presence of our forces. Prior to contact with the enemy use helicopters for medevac or tactical emergencies only.

(h) Resupply Techniques: Unlike the VC guerrilla who lives off the land, we are limited in our clandestine operations by the bulk and weight of C rations which limit the number of days our troops can operate without resupply by helicopter. The following are suggested ways to solve this problem:

1. Use LRRP rations when available or in combination with C rations.

2. Use rice and powdered soup alternately with C rations or the LRRP rations.

3. Cache supplies and operate clandestinely from a base carrying only one day's supplies on the soldier.

4. Resupply by helicopter at night.

5. Resupply during the day with the helicopter flying nap of the earth and supplies "kicked" out onto a DZ.

(i) Silence the Battlefield: Eliminate artillery R&I fires, long range artillery, and Tac Air strikes near friendly troops unless promptly exploited by ground forces.

(j) Dummy Position: Construct and occupy obvious positions during daylight hours and then abandon them during the hours of darkness to move to ambush sites or to attack suspected enemy positions.

(k) Doubling Back: Move out from a position in the afternoon and after darkness falls, radically change direction of march to attack a preselected target before dawn.

(l) Use of Trails: "Beat the bush" rather than move along main trails. The enemy employs trail watchers along main trails where he can generally observe advancing troops. Search along secondary and tertiary trails used by game which offer the guerrilla excellent concealment as well as an escape route.

(m) Springing the Trap: When feasible, follow or observe a single or small party of enemy to locate larger forces or determine critical intelligence such as enemy positions, supply points, CP's, etc. Maneuver forces to ensure closing the trap and killing or capturing the enemy force involved. Move on a wide front supported by reserves and firepower.

(n) Cordon and Search: Encircle a village at night as secretly as possible, then search at first light using PF, RF, or ARVN

SUBJECT: Combat Operations After Action Report, Operation SEWARD (RCS: MACV J3-32) (U)

forces. Rehearse using same forces until this type operation can be accomplished effectively. Consider use of stay behind forces after the search.

(o) Improve Marksmanship: Marksmanship is extremely important in fighting guerrillas. Generally the enemy will offer only fleeing glimpses of himself while trying to escape the advancing US soldiers. Therefore, if a continuous and supervised marksmanship program is established -- each man firing 20-40 rounds daily except when on clandestine operations -- the enemy casualty statistic will rise, enemy morale will be lowered, and the enemy will be forced to engage US troops at a maximum range. This will reduce the effectiveness of his fire and give us time to commit immediate reaction forces.

(p) Improve Effectiveness of the Sniper: Greater emphasis should be placed on the role of the sniper. Too often we receive reports of the enemy escaping at ranges of 400-500 meters. A well trained sniper should be able to kill or wound the enemy at that range. Platoons should habitually employ the sniper.

(q) Counter Enemy Snipers: Enemy snipers are a great deterrent to US morale. Therefore, companies should organize sniper killer teams to operate semi-independently to harrass the enemy. A sniper with a sniper rifle and telescopic sight could selectively kill while another team member adjusts artillery on the target.

(r) Specialized Training: To be successful guerrillas, troopers must be instilled with patience and taught the fundamentals of camouflage, concealment, light and noise discipline, and to remain still for long periods of time. Too often a potentially effective ambush is prematurely disclosed by coughing, scratching, movement to relieve oneself and other restless activities. Our troops camouflage at night but seldom camouflage for day operations. Training should give added emphasis to proper conduct of the individual during ambush operations.

(s) Squad Area of Operations: Consistent with communications capabilities, emphasize squads operating in areas of operation for 3 days without resupply. For example, one company operating by squads in zones, separated but mutually supporting, can cover a large area with thoroughness and stealth. Mission of squads: ambush at night, observe during daylight, and engage small enemy groups. Upon locating a significant enemy force the platoon/company consolidates on the squad to fix the enemy and the battalion (-), standing by as an immediate reaction force, is brought to bear on the enemy to destroy him.

(4) Once contact is made react rapidly with all available firepower and reinforcements without further regard to deception, stealth, or surprise. Following the engagement with the enemy, revert to semi-guerrilla tactics until a subsequent contact is made.

16. (C) Recommendations:

a. That a minimum of four flyable CH-47 helicopters be provided to the Brigade when supporting artillery is to be moved by an air LOC and forward logistical supply points are established where no land LOC is available and that a minimum of two med evac helicopters be provided as discussed in Inclosure 4 (Logistics).

b. That the use of ARVN, CIDG and other indigenous paramilitary forces (RF and PF units) in cooperation and coordination with US forces continue to be maximized to conserve or augment the forces available to a US commander, as well as improve training, aggressiveness and confidence of the Vietnamese units.

SUBJECT: Combat Operations After Action Report, Operation SEWARD (RCS:
MACV J3-32) (U)

c. That consideration be given to investigating apparent high dud rate of CBU in air strikes throughout Vietnam. It appears that a high percentage of the bomblets do not explode and are later picked up by the VC and used in making booby traps and mines.

d. This Brigade continues to recommend O-1 aircraft, equipped with spray tanks, be made available to province and sector for immediate and selective use in crop denial. This will eliminate long delays in obtaining approval and insure greater responsiveness.



WILLARD PEARSON
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding



TUY HOA, VIETNAM (101st - IO) —Young Vietnamese girls present flowered Leis to troopers of the 2nd Battalion, 502nd (Airborne) Infantry following the successful completion of Operation Seward. During the operation the 1st Brigade 101st Airborne Division protected the rice harvest in Phu Yen Province. (L70-7) US Army Photo by Sp/4 Oddvar Breiland.



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Issue #2



Issue #3



Issue #4



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Issue #7



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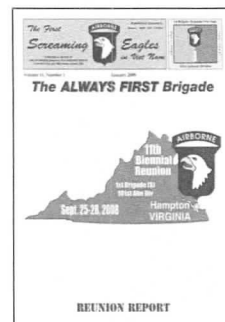
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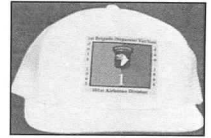
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Following Is A Short Description Of The Contents Of This Magazine.

OPERATION SEWARDPAGES 1 – 5 and 28 – 32

After Action Report on Operation Seward in PHU YEN Province from September 5 through October 25, 1966.

ANNUAL REUNION PAGES 6 – 12

Mostly photographs of activities, veterans and facilities of the 68th Annual Reunion of the 101st Airborne Division in Portland, Oregon, August 14 –17, 2013.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VIET NAM WAR ...

..... **PAGE 13**
The flag and objectives of THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION.

SUBSCRIBERS' LIST PAGES 14 & 15

Names and addresses of new subscribers, renewing subscribers and address changes. Please help if you know those who served in the Brigade and are not subscribers.

THE DIPLOMAT AND WARRIOR

PAGES 17 – 20
Volume II No. 1 dated July 1, 1967, of the unit newspaper. A list of those mentioned, who are in the publisher's database is on page 16.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR PAGES 21 & 22

Messages believed to be of interest to most subscribers sent by subscribers and others.

OBITUARIES PAGES 23 & 24

Obituaries of Reba Lindsey, wife of Johnnie C. Lindsey DMOR, 1/327 INF HHC & C 8/66-8/67; Ray L. Strength, 2/327 HQ 7/65-8/66; Dennis M. Wells, 2/501 B 67-68 and Russell S. Whitman III, 1/327 HQ 7/67-7/69.

THE RTO PAGES 25 – 27

A poem by "Gunslinger," Colonel Frank Dietrich, written when he served as Commanding Officer of 2/502. The poem is followed by citations from some of his awards and decorations.

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