



RIPCORD REPORT



For Friends and Survivors of the Battle of Fire Support Base Ripcord
Republic of Vietnam 12 March - 23 July, 1970

Issue # 126

May 2021

50th Anniversary Plus 1

October 6 is quickly approaching. We still plan to hold our reunion this year. Hopefully, group restrictions will be lifted by the time we arrive. As a member of the Ripcord Association, we should all get the vaccine shot before attending. This will protect your health as well as that of your fellow members. There are some members who, because of other afflictions, will not be able to get shots. If the rest of us get vaccinated, we will help protect the health of the other members as well as our selves. As we did in Vietnam, we did not fight for Vietnam or the USA as much as we fought for the lives of our buddies. We should all do it once more. Get your shots!

Those of you who have hesitated in getting a room for the reunion will have to find accommodations outside the University Plaza Hotel. The TRU Hotel is 4 blocks away and costs about \$110 per night. The Best Western Rt. 66 Rail Haven is about 6 blocks away and costs \$80 per night. The "Q" is not presently available. Down town is the Vandivort at \$170 plus. All others are a vehicle drive away, but there are plenty of options.

Unless COVID makes a resounding come back this summer, we plan to go ahead with our 50th Anniversary of the Battle of FSB Ripcord. There will not be a raffle this year, but there will be a commemorative service for those who passed during the battle. First timer coins will be presented and a yearbook will be prepared to cover the event. We hope all can find time to attend safely so get your shots.

Honorary Air Assault Badge

The 101st Association is offering an honorary Air Assault Badge to those who participated in air assault prior to the official status. Generally all our members can probably qualify for the honorarium if you desire. Check the attached application form and get it into the address provided prior to the end of May. There will be a presentation at Fort Campbell in June during the time the awards are made for Distinguished Member of the Regiment. It is something you can wear with your civvies!

2021 Ripcord Reunion
Springfield, MO
Wed Oct 6 - Sat Oct 9,
Registration form on page 12

Donations

the life blood of our Association

The following have given donations to the Ripcord Association since the last newsletter. These donations help keep the website and newsletters published to keep all our Ripcord members up to date.

Donations

- Joe O. Smith D 2/506& B326 ENG
- Darryl Reina A 2/506
- David Lockwood A 2/11 FA
- John Fowler C 2/506
- Mike Bruce 326 Dustoff
- Jerone Buffington C 2/506
- Mary Meagher D 1/506
- Robert Wallace C 2/506
- Troy Porter C 2/506 & Air Cav.
- Robert Wright A 2/506
- Ben Harrison 3rd BDE
- Steve Gunn D 2/506
- Tony Little D 2/506
- Fred Shuttleworth E 2/506
- Frank Bort C 2/506
- Ralph Forbes In memory of Paul Kosanke & Willie Austin A 2/94 FA, FSB Barbara
- Marsh Stamm In memory of David Haglund.

Checks payable to "Ripcord Association".

Mail to:

**Lee Widjeskog,
493 Stillman Ave.
Bridgeton, NJ 08302**



**Visit our website at
www.ripcordassociation.com**

Read the **Ripcord Report** on line
Daily updates ● History
and much more

Opinions expressed in submitted material are not necessarily those of the editorial staff. We reserve the right to reject any material deemed to be inappropriate. We also reserve the right to edit all submissions, but we will make every effort to maintain the writer's concept and meaning. Please be brief and concise.



Join us on Facebook group
Ripcord Association

**Visit our website at
www.ripcordassociation.com**

Please continue to send your letters and
send your comments or articles to:

ltwidjeskog@aol.com

or

postal mail to:

[Lee Widjeskog](mailto:Lee.Widjeskog@ripcordassociation.com)

493 Stillman Ave
Bridgeton, NJ 08302

Everyone would love to hear from you.

RIPCORD REPORT

Ripcord Report is a publication of the **Ripcord Association**, and is the authoritative voice of history for the Battle of Fire Support Base Ripcord.

Ripcord Report

www.ripcordassociation.com

Editor: Lee Widjeskog

Phone: 856-451-1108

E-mail: ltwidjeskog@aol.com

Design & Layout

Frank Marshall

E-mail: mail@ripcordassociation.com

Ripcord on Facebook

by Anthony Critchlow



Hello everyone. I hope everyone is doing well and have gotten all you covid shots. Now down to business. We now have 961 members on our face Book page. Most of our new members are family and friend of ripcord vets. Pleas help me with one little thing. When you recommend a friend or family member to join, let then now you have recommended them. I now have 6 people that have been invited and they have not done so. Please make sure they are interested in our page before you invite them.

I thought I would post the page rules.

To make this site better we have a few rules. Having rules makes our site friendlier and better. Please read them and if you have a question ask one of the Administrators. First this site is for your time on and around FSB Ripcord and secondly, your time in Vietnam. This is also a site for Family and friends to ask questions.

1. NO, pornography or girlie photographs.
2. NO, Bad language.
3. NO, Advertising
4. Leave your politics at home.
5. Please no birthday post here.
6. Have respect for the members and enjoy the site.
7. Do not post pictures or articles that request or beg people to share. Also request to like a picture.

For the most part everyone follows these very well. It makes my job so easy.

I will see you in Springfield this year. The wife and I are really looking forward to it.

Special Thanks from the Editor

Our facebook group page was started March 12, 2010 and Anthony Critchlow has been the moderator since the very start. He has done a fantastic job and has brought the facebook group close to 1,000 members. Next time you are on our facebook group page, give Anthony a "Thank you" for his 11 years of dedication and fantastic work.

JERSEY RAMBLINGS

by Lee Widjeskog



Since the last newsletter, Kathy and I have been searching for COVID shots so we could visit our kids in Massachusetts. Finally, in March we were able to get our shots and in April our visiting was completed. It was great to see our kids and grandson without thinking you might infect them. They have since had their shots and it looks like our grandson will get one shortly.

I was not concern about whether or not I got COVID. However, I did not want to have Kathy get it. If I were to die I would only be concerned that Kathy would be OK. I could only insure that if I stayed in good health. Ergo, I got my shots.

As you will read elsewhere in this newsletter, the University Plaza has run out of rooms. Due to COVID, they have not re-opened the "Q" hotel two blocks away. Thus, if you do not have a room you must look to the Rt. 66 Best Western, Tru by Hilton and Vandivort down town for relatively close places. If you have a car there are many options near the highway so check it out and get your registration in for the reunion so I can plan.

If things continue on the level it has been moving, most restrictions will be lifted for those vaccinated. Hopefully, we can hold a normal reunion with all the usual amenities.

The 101st Association is offering an honorary Air Assault Badge to those who were in the Ripcord battle and others who were the ones learning how to use helicopters efficiently in battle. If you want the badge, fill out the form, attach the papers and send it in as shown. They will make a presentation in June at Fort Campbell if you attend the Distinguished Member of the Regiment presentation ceremonies.

Take care, get your shots and show up for the reunion in October!

Ripcord Association Membership

696 members in our Ripcord Association

580 are Ripcord Veterans

116 are Associate Members

148 receive newsletter via Postal Mail

548 receive the newsletter via e-mail

961 on Facebook "Ripcord Association Group"

April 1970 Events of FSB Ricord

April 10

- 0055: at 443163, 2Delta 1/506 received satchel charges while claymore wires were cut. Six men were WIA.
- 0100: Enemy movement noted around FSB Granite.
- 1605: 3 Alpha 2/506 completed a LZ at 360189.
- 0940: at 368163, 1 Bravo 2/501 received fire from one NVA. His shot killed Sgt. Donald Sistrunk as he received his orders for the day.
- 1318: at 372194, 1 Bravo 2/501 was engaged by two NVA leaving the unit Kit Carson wounded.
- 1430: at 373162, 2 Bravo 2/501 ambushed three NVA killing one and wounding two.
- 1605: Charlie 2/506 cut a LZ at 347191
- 1750: at 372180, Recon Team D and a NVA exchanged fire, leaving 1 WIA and a NVA running.
- FSB Gladiator with mortars, artillery, infantry and TOC has 272 men on the base.



Don Sistrunk

A 1/506	Rakkasan	A 2/501	328175
B1/506	Granite	B 2/501	367165
C 1/506	468143	C 2/501	Gladiator
D 1/506	Rakkasan	D 2/501	322180
Recon	435154	Recon	337171

Artillery unmoved.

April 11

- 0430: Charlie 2/506 at 347191 starts their move to take FSB Ripcord. At 0712 it had reached the top without opposition.
- 0910: Recon 2/506 at 370181 was engaged by NVA at 100 meters without effect. ARA were employed without results.
- Bravo 2/506 was air lifted to Ripcord along with 326 Engineers and bull dozers. Defoliant helicopters were deployed around Ripcord.
- Alpha 2/506 was lifted to Camp Evans.
- Bravo 2/506 cut a LZ at 367184.
- A mortar section of 2/506 landed on FSB Ripcord.
- Recon 2/506 found a cave at 367184 and destroyed NVA equipment within.
- 1154: at 366163, 3 Bravo2/501 was engaged by NVA. Two men were WIA.

- 1224: 2 Bravo 2/501 at 367165 engaged 2 NVA. Return fire wounded 5 GIs.
- 1530: at 375192, Charlie 2/501 took a NVA's surrender and sent him in for treatment and interrogation.
- Units not mentioned continued approximately where they were on the 10th of April.

April 12

- Weather is clear!
- 0735: at 365186 near the top of Hill 805, Recon 2/506 was fired on by NVA leaving one man slightly wounded.
- 0805: Delta 2/506 was lifted to FSB Ripcord.
- Supplies have been pouring in to Ripcord as efforts are made to secure and build up the perimeter.
- 1330: Bravo 2/506 received a medevac as requested.

A 1/506	452166	A 2/501	324178
B 1/506	FSB Granite	B 2/501	362165
C 1/506	467154	C2/501	FSB Gladiator
D 1/506	FSB Rakkasan	D 2/501	343176
Recon	455159	Recon	437186
A 2/506	Camp Evans		
B 2/506	350201		
C 2/506	FSB Ripcord		
D 2/506	348187		
Recon	362188		

Artillery not changed, but now mortars from 2/506 are on FSB Ripcord.

April 13

- 1150: Recon 2/506 at Hill 805, engaged one NVA at 40 meters and successfully scared him off.
- 1150: 3 Delta 2/501 engaged 3 NVA in a stream at 365160 with small arms and killed three. As the bodies were searched Delta received 56 rounds of mortar fire resulting in 3 WIA.
- 1310: at 452166, Alpha 1/506 received 25 rounds of mortar leaving 2 WIA.
- 2353: at 490198, Delta 1/506 listening post received a RPG resulting in 2 minor wounds.
- Outside the main Ripcord grounds, FSB Nancy was hit in the pre-dawn hours by mortars, RPG, B-40 rockets and small arms as NVA attacked from the

NW and SE. Results were 4 KIA, 37 WIA, 8 ARVN WIA, 64 NVA killed and 6 NVA captured.

- 1/506 continued patrols around FSB Granite, 2/501 patrolled south of Ripcord and 2/506 worked Ripcord and north east.
- Artillery was unchanged.

April 14

- Weather conditions are poor for visibility.
- 0340: Two men on FSB Ripcord were wounded by two short 81mm rounds.
- 1455: at 363171, 3Delta 2/501 was engaged by NVA with small arms and RPG resulting in 10 WIA.
- 1615: A soldier of Bravo 2/506 was medevacked due to epileptic fits.
- 1720: at 367165, 2Bravo 2/506 engaged one NVA at 20 meters. The NVA returned fire and fled. Results were one NVA dead.

A 1/506	455166	A 2/506	508310
B 1/506	FSB Granite	B 2/506	347201
C 1/506	468151	C 2/506	Ripcord
D 1/506	Rakkasan	D 2/506	349187
Recon	Camp Evans	Recon	363186

A 2/501	324178	A 2/502	557218
B 2/501	362164	B 2/502	440288
C 2/501	Gladiator	C 2/502	551284
D 2/501	358169	D 2/502	Jack
Recon	440188	Recon	435254

A 2/319 FA FSB Rakkasan
 B 2/319 FA FSB Gladiator
 C 2/319 FA Granite
 C4/77 FA Evans
 A1/39 FA Evans
 B 1/39 FA Nancy
 A2/11 FA (4 sections) FSB Rakkasan &
 2 sec. at Gladiator
 A2/94 FA FSB Barbara
 C34 FA FSB O'Reilly

April 15

- Once again, the weather is less than ideal.
- 0033: a load of C-rations is delivered to Ripcord by Chinook in the dark.
- 0640: at 507246 (about 4 clicks north of Rakkason) 2Delta 2/502 received RPG fire. Leaving 1 US KIA (James Tyner) and 8 WIA.

- 0815: at 681151, Charlie 1/506 spotted 35 NVA in the open at 250 meters. Artillery and ARA were employed leaving one known NVA dead.
- 1111: at 362164, 3Bravo 2/501 engaged 3 NVA at 15 meters. Result was 3 NVA KIA and 4 US WIA.
- 1555: A 2/11 FA moved from FSB Gladiator to FSB Granite.
- 1600: A 2/506 opcon from 2/502 to 1/506 at 480145, was engaged by 5 NVA as they left the LZ. They were hit by mortars, small arms and grenades. Killed in the action was one NVA and three US, Dean Dafler, and Bobby Young of First Platoon. Attempts to get a medevac in quickly was nullified by jungle cover, fog and darkness. This resulted in the death of Charlie Steffler in the early morning while the other two wounded survived. Medevac was not able to come till 1100 the next day.
- 1/506 locations not far from the 14th. Recon now at 437146 and A2/506 at 481145.
- 2/506 all units similar to yesterday. 2/501 all units similar to yesterday. 2/502 Alpha and Bravo as yesterday. Charlie at Gladiator, Delta at 494254 and Recon at 437249.
- The only change for artillery is A2/11 FA has two sections on Granite.



Tyner



Steffler



Dafler



Young

April 16

- 1130: A buried grenade was hit by a soldier digging a fighting position on Ripcord. It exploded injuring him and one other. Dennis Heinz of Charlie 2/506 died at the hospital.
- 1420: Ripcord, received 25 mortar rounds leaving 4 WIA.
- 1515: The 2/506 TOC has opened on Ripcord.

A 1/506	455155,	A 2/506	482145
B 1/506	Granite,	B 2/506	347198

C 1/506	469152,	C 2/506	Ripcord
D 1/506	Rakkasan,	D 2/506	349188
Recon	371146	Recon	359190
A 2/501	357168	A2/502	535207
B 2/501	362165	B2/502	202286
C 2/501	Gladiator,	C 2/502	524260
D 2/501	377167,	D 2/502	493243
Recon	440178	Recon	437249

A 2/319 FA	Rakkasan
B2/319 FA	Ripcord,
C 4/77 FA	Evans
A 1/39 FA	Evans
C 2/319 FA	Granite
B 1/39 FA	Nancy
A 2/11 FA	Granite,
A 2/94 FA	Barbara
C 34 FA	O'Reilly



Heinz

FSB Gladiator is being closed out and taken down.

April 17

- 0630: at 362166 Bravo 2/501 conducted a recon by fire with M79 before leaving their NDP. The NVA responded from several directions. Artillery and ARA were employed. 2 NVA died and 1 US (Norman Peery) was killed. 12 men were WIA. This is in the area known as "Re-up Hill".
- 0700: At 504245, 2Delta 2/502 engaged and killed 1 NVA, 4 clicks north of Rakkasan.
- 0830: At 341197 1Bravo 2/506 found 4 bunkers and the grave of one NVA.
- 0900: At 340201 1Bravo 2/506 cut a one ship LZ.
- 0920: At 348200 2Bravo 2/506 cut a one ship LZ.
- 1430: At 474146, 3Charlie 1/506 found the remains of 16 NVA killed by artillery, ARA and tactical Air.
- 1500: At 353114, a 2/17 Cav aircraft received ground fire leaving one US WIA.
- 1530: Delta 2/506 at 352185, found 5 bunkers and destroyed same.
- 1650: Battery C-11 FA of ARVN was inserted onto Ripcord with their 105 Howitzers.
- 1650: Charlie 2/501 left Gladiator and landed on Granite. Gladiator is now closed.
- FSB Ripcord with 2 artillery batteries, mortars, TOC and infantry total 334 men.



Peery

- Unit locations:

A 1/506	455153,	A 2/506	481146
B 1/506	Camp Evans	B2/506	344197
C 1/506	469146	C2/506	Ripcord
D 1/506	Rakkasan	D2/506	352185
Recon	443147	Recon	358191

A 2/501	359164	A2/502	536203
B2/501	362166,	B2/502	420286
C2/501	Granite,	C2/502	Jack
D2/501	379170,	D2/502	494243
Recon	440177	Recon	435257

A2/319 FA	Rakkasan,	A1/39	Evans,
B2/319	Ripcord,	B1/39	Nancy,
C2/319	FA Granite,	A2/94	Barbara,
C4/77 FA	Evans,	C-34 FA	O'Reilly,
A2/11FA	Granite,	C-11 FA	Ripcord.

April 18

- 1021: First flame drops conducted around Ripcord to control cover.
- 1145: At 339153, ARA observed and destroyed a heavy machine gun position and 2 bunkers.
- 1400: At 393153, 2/17 Cav observed and destroyed one gun positions, 3 bunkers and 10 fighting positions.
- 1425: At 366166, 2 Bravo 2/501 received 10 mortar rounds leaving 3 WIA.
- 1800: At 357197, 3Bravo 2/506 completed a 1 ship LZ.
- 1816: At 362164, 2Alpha 2/501 was hit by 5 NVA before they fled east. Two US KIA and 2 WIA. The men (Mike Vagnone and Robert Dangberg) had been killed as they were cautiously crossing a deep ravine just before dusk.
- 1930: At 340202, 1 Bravo 2/506 completed a one ship LZ.
- Unit locations
1/506 essentially the same. 2/506 A to Evans the others unmoved.
Mortars 2/506 2 sec. Ripcord.
2/501 similar to yesterday, 2/502 is the same. Artillery unmoved.



Vagnone



Dangberg

April 19

- 0530: C2/506 on Ripcord, engaged 2 NVA in the wire with grenades. Nothing found.
- 0644: At 373162, Bravo 2/501 engaged enemy soldiers with organic weapons. The NVA returned fire with RPG and mortars. Three GI were WIA and Sgt. Joseph and Sgt. Jarrett were killed.
- 1015: A2/506 lifted to 357197 for patrolling operations.
- 1130: B 2/506 lifted from 357197 and taken to Camp Evans.
- 1635: 1Alpha 2/501 at 363164, received small arms fire from bunkers. ARA were employed and contact broke at 2000. Staff Sgt. Dean Frey was killed as he rushed to the front to join his boys. Six others wounded.
- 2100: D 2/506 destroyed 4 of 10 bunkers at 352185.
- FSB Ripcord continues to build. It now has a population of 367 men.
- 1/506 Units remained south of Rakkasan along the Rao Trang. Three sections Mortars E1/506 on Rakkasan. 2/506 remain on and around Ripcord with the exception of Bravo which went to Eagle Beach.
- 1/501 took over Jack and security around Camp Evans. 2/501 secured Granite and the area south of Ripcord near RE-up Hill.
- Artillery units remained in place.



Joseph



Jarrett



Frey

April 20

- 1150: Flame drops made around Ripcord.
- 1225: 3 Alpha 2/501 engaged NVA at 364162 and received RPG and mortar fire. Two GI were WIA.
- 1432: 1 Charlie 1/506 engaged NVA in bunkers at 478152. The NVA fled leaving a grave with a dead man. The platoon followed and ran into a horseshoe ambush. The claymore and small arms killed Sgt. Lockett and Sgt. Longmire while wounding 5 others.
- 1445: At 349185, 1 Delta 2/506 confirmed a mortar

position of two bunkers, 40 rounds, fuses and a blood trail. All were destroyed.

- 1605: A 2/506 destroyed two bunkers at 356192 using LAW (Light Antitank Weapon).
- The units remained as yesterday with Recon 2/506 now at Camp Evans. Two sections of mortar E2/506 at Granite.



Lockett



Longmire

April 21

- 0220: A 2/501 in the vicinity of Re-Up Hill, responded to trip flares with M79 and claymores. The NVA hit back with RPG, satchel charges and small arms. Three US were WIA. Blood trails left the area.
- 1125: 3Bravo 1/501 just north of FSB Jack, was ambushed with two wounded. Medic, Kerry Vance, attempted to treat one and was killed as he moved forward. Later booby traps were encountered and two more were wounded.
- 1300: Sensors were emplace at closed FSB Gladiator to detect NVA presence.
- 1405: at 477134, 3Charlie 1/506 note NVA to their rear and engaged them leaving One GI WIA.
- 1700: B 2/506 returned to field at 369214 and began patrolling.
- 1700: Recon 1/506 engaged NVA at 445142 killing one NVA.
- 1710: Delta 2/506 completed a one ship LZ at 345182.
- 1824: 1Bravo 1/501 hit a booby trap that wounded one man at 4283165.
- Unit locations: 1/506 no change, 2/506 Bravo 367 216, Alpha 362194, Recon 340173 2/501 No change, 1/501 no change. Artillery unchanged.



Vance

INCOMING MAIL



Lee,
 We plan on attending the reunion in Oct. we hope you and Kathy are well. Tony and I have gotten our 2nd vaccines and are doing well.
 We know our registration fee is paid, but we thought this might help with someone else or for whatever you see fit. Tony is looking forward to the reunion!
 Stay healthy,
Koleen & Tony Little
 D2/506



Frank & Lee,
 It's been a trying 2020, but things are looking up, especially with spring around the corner. Hoping to see you in October!
 Stay healthy,
John & Annette Kuennon
 C2/506



Lee,
 We are looking forward to seeing everyone and hopefully it won't get postponed again. As you can see, we are planning to be there a couple of days ahead to help out. If you need help on the other end, let us know and we can stay longer.
 Thanks for all you do!
Lin & Pinkey Bashford
 D2/506



Lee,
 Wishing you and Kathy a safe summer. Looking forward to seeing everyone this Fall. Just completed my vaccine shots and am looking at the light at the end of the tunnel. Stay safe & enjoy your drive to Springfield this October.
Fred Shuttleworth
 E 2/506
 April 2021
PS: I've enclosed a donation check for our association.



Dear Lee,
 After receiving the latest Ripcord Report , I decided to

write and let you know I was one of the men wounded from the mortar round that hit the huge rock on top of Ripcord on April 1, 1970. That mortar round wounded Major Law who at the time was lying along side the fox hole that I and another were sitting in. I was the Senior RT0 for the Forward TOC, setting up communications for the incoming birds. I remember the Medavac chopper being hit. I received several pieces of shrapnel to my left arm and lung, which I still have inside me. I was medevac'd about 1½ hours or so after initially being wounded back to Camp Evans and then to the 85th Evac Hospital. I have always wondered what happened to Major Law and Lt . Darling. I hope they survived. It was on hell of a day to say the least. I am planning to attend the next reunion (2021) for the first time and will be bring another Ripcord survivor (Dick Hanson) with me.

Stay Healthy and Thank you for sending the reports.
SGT Raymond Hudzinski
 HHC 2/506 & D 2/506

Editor's reply:
Major Law was medevaced out. Lt. Darling took over for the day. He later died in a helicopter crash in late May.



Thanks so much for forwarding. For some reason I thought this was for Officer's only. I'm going to try my best to make this one, I haven't been to Ft. Campbell since Basic. If I'm not mistaken Capt. Hewitt was my Commander at Ft. Campbell or possibly Ft. Polk. Capt. Hewitt was killed at Ripcord before I got there on July 5 at approx.. I 0:00 a.m. Came under fire on the way up to Ripcord and returned fire. As you know we were all extracted on the 23tr of July and went back to Camp Evan's to get a shower, clean jungle fatigue's and get a little rest before we went back out to the "Bush" . I served with many Great Commanders and Lt. Pitetti was one of them along with Capt. Seitz and Major F.C.W. He used to get a hold ofme and I was to get a small case of Frag's and we would fly out to enemy locations and he had me throwing Frag's before he took some shrapnel. I really ertjoyed reading this issue and look forward to seeing all. I carried the M-16 at first, then took over the M- 60 for approx. 3-4 months before Capt. Wilcox asked if I would be his R.T.O. I gladly accepted.

Currahee,
Doug Olson-Stephen



101st Airborne Association
Application for Honorary Air Assault Badge
 Must Meet All Criteria Listed on Application Form

Part 1 - Personal Information
 Type or Print Legibly

Name

Last: _____ First: _____ Middle: _____

Mailing Address

Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Telephone/email

Land Line: _____ Cell: _____ email: _____

Part 2 – Vietnam War Combat Service
 Assigned or Attached to 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile)

From: _____ To: _____ Rank: _____

Company/Battery/Troop: _____ Battalion/Squadron: _____ Regiment: _____ Brigade: _____

Duty MOS (check appropriate box)

Infantry Combat Medic Field Artillery Cavalry Other _____

Formal Airmobile Training (check all that apply – insert location and dates of training)

Type of Training	Location	Dates
<input type="checkbox"/> AIT		
<input type="checkbox"/> NCOCC, CLC		
<input type="checkbox"/> OCS, IOBC		
<input type="checkbox"/> SERTS		
<input type="checkbox"/> RECONDO		
<input type="checkbox"/> Unit Training/OJT		

Combat Awards (check all that apply)

Combat Infantry Badge Combat Medic Badge ARCOM w/V Bronze Star Air Medal
 Legion of Merit Silver Star Distinguished Service Cross Medal of Honor

Combat Experience (check all that apply)

Combat Air Assault Dust-Off/MEDEVAC Helicopter Troop Extraction Call for Gunship Fire Support
 Select/Prep/Secure LZ/PZ Conduct Air Assault Advanced Tactics (rappel, para-drop, equipment sling load)

Part 3 – Certification

I hereby swear or affirm that the above record of training and experience is correct to the best of my knowledge and recollection. I have enclosed a copy of my DD-214 (my social security number has been blocked out). I understand that, if approved, this is an Honorarium Award and will not change my official military record.

_____ Date

_____ Signature

Honorary Air Assault Badge Criteria

Read Before Completing Application

The legacy of the soldiers who served with the 101st Airborne Division (Air Mobile) in Vietnam was the foundation of what has evolved into the air assault techniques and tactics of today. The soldiers of the current 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) earnestly desire to recognize the heritage of those soldiers who proved the concept of air mobility/air assault operations by awarding those who meet certain strict criteria, honorary air assault wings.

This is an Honorarium Award. Veterans who have provided the required criteria and who have been certified by the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) will be officially authorized to *purchase and wear (or display) the Air Assault Badge*. The Air Assault Badge may then be worn on civilian caps/clothing but is not authorized for wear on a uniform. It is also important to understand that this honorary recognition does not entitle the veteran to have the Air Assault Badge added to his official military personnel record.

Eligibility for the honorary award of the Air Assault Badge is based upon satisfaction of **ALL** of the following criteria:

- Assigned or attached to a combat unit in the 101st Airborne Division, 101st Air Cavalry Division or 101st Airborne Division (Air Mobile) in Vietnam during the period from 1965 through 1972; **AND**
- Served in direct combat in a Combat Arms duty MOS (Infantry, Combat Medic, Cavalry, Engineers, Field Artillery) with the 101st Airborne in Vietnam; OR was a Combat Support MOS assigned to a 101st combat unit in Vietnam; **AND**
- Awarded the CIB, CMB, Air Medal, ARCOM with V, Bronze Star, Legion of Merit, Silver Star, Distinguished Service Cross or Medal of Honor OR Conducted 25 or more Combat Helicopter Assaults or a lesser number of "hot" LZs; **AND**
- Graduated from Infantry AIT, NCOCC, OCS, IOBC, SERTS, CLC or RECONDO during the period of the Vietnam War; **AND**
- Provided a copy of form DD-214 (social security number blocked out)

The 101st Airborne Division Association is providing assistance to the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) by providing this important information to our members and by administratively collecting and delivering properly completed applications to the division award approving officials.

Send applications to: 101st Airborne Division Association
PO Box 929
Fort Campbell, KY 42223

Springfield 2021 Attendee List

- Floyd & Duane Alexander A2/506 & B 2/319 FA
- Wayne & Loretta Ball A2/506
- Lin & Pinkey Bashford D 2/506
- Bill Boles D 2 /506
- Bruce Brady & Karolyn Kruger A 2/506
- Sam & Jan Brown B 1/506
- Jerome Buffington C 2/506
- Paul & Korky Buhr A 2/506
- Albert Burckard A 2/506
- Cherlyn Burdette & Steve Bell A 2/11 FA Guest
- Linda Byles & Patty Taylor 326 Eng. guest
- Tex Campbell D 2/506
- ***Ernie & Scott Claxon HHC 2/506**
- ***Ronald & June Cochran A 2/11 FA**
- Dale & Sue Cooper C 2/506
- David & Connie Cote B & E /506
- Tommy & Judy Counts & Lisa Hill D 2/506
- Anthony & Dennise Critchlow, John & Catherine Williams HHC 2/506
- Merle, Ruth & Josh DeLagrange D 1/506
- Michael & Christine Dicken B 2/506
- Rex & Carol Flansburg D 2/506
- Rudy & Linda Forsman D 2/506
- John & Debbie Fowler C 2/506
- Leigh & Vicki Freeman C 2/506
- ***William & Laverne Green A 2/11 FA**
- David, Arlene, Wyatt & Willie Grubb D 158 ASHB
- Steve & Cindy Gunn D, HHC 2/506
- Bill & Lynn Hand B 2/506
- Paul & Laure Hansmann B 2/506
- ***Richard & Linda Hanson HHC 2/506**
- Bill & Linda Heath A & HHC 2/506
- John & Barbara Hedrick E 2/506
- ***Dave Hilleren & Marlene Smith B 159 ASHB**
- Ray & Elaine Hines 2/319 FA
- Chuck & Jean Holmen A 159 ASHB
- Donald & Linda Holthausen C 2/506
- Jim & Kathy Howton Pathfinder
- ***Raymond & Nell Hudzinski HHC 2/506**
- Buzz Ireland 159 ASHB
- Robert & Red Judd B 2/506
- Bob & Bonnie Juszczak D 2/506
- Gary Kelly A 2/506
- Donald Kiefer A 2/506
- Greg & Kristi Kiekintveld B 256 ENG
- ***Lyle Kohmetshev B 2/501**
- John & Annette Kuennen C2/506
- Dale Lane, Diane Grote, Jeff, Sarah, Vivian and Max Watkins A2/506
- Bob Leibecke C 2/506
- Tony & Koleen Little D 2/506
- ***David & Ingrid Lockwood A 2/11 FA**
- Walter & Kathie Lyssy HHC 2/506
- Mike Mackey & J.P. Meyer C 159 ASHB
- ***Jerry & Donna Manemann A 2/506**
- Gene & Star Marshall B 2/319 FA
- Al & Sondra Martin JD & Trisha Rodgers A 2/11 FA
- ***Joe & Diane McCarville Guest C 2/506**
- Jim & Michele McCoy D 1/506
- Ron & Linda McCrory E 2/506
- ***Doug & Mimi McVay A 2/506**
- ***Mary Therese Meagher & John Hoek D 1/506 Guest**
- Peter & Chris Meloro C 2/506
- Uwe, Diane, Eric, Serena, Emma & Maddy Meyer B 2/506
- Thomas & Annette Militello A 2/11 FA
- Benny & Teresa Mulkey Pathfinder
- Clem Neiderer HHC 2/506
- ***Charles Parsons B 2/506**
- Tom & Barbara Peacock D 2/506 / A 2/501
- Troy & Barbara Porter C 2/506 & 3rd Bde Air.
- Ray & Sheila Potts B 2/319 FA
- ***George Pourchot D 1/506**
- Douglas Puffer D 2/506
- Mike & Laura Renner A 2/11 FA
- Fred Shuttleworth & Victoria Rayle E 2/506
- Marc Skinner D 2/506
- Everett Slaughter B 2/506
- Joe O. Smith B/326 ENG & D 2/506
- Dave & Lisa Snyder A 2/11 FA
- Fred & Micki Spaulding HHC 3rd Bde
- Dennis & Jane Stortz D 2/506
- Robert Tarbuck & Paige Corkhill C 2/506
- Dale & Janet Tauer D 1/506
- Lee & Kathy Widjeskog A 2/506
- Mike & Liz Womack C 2/506
- Bob & Betty Worrall B 2/501
- Robert & Gina Wright A 2/506
- Ron Zahn A 2/11 FA
- ***Bold lettering indicates new attendee**

RIPCORDEREUNION2021 SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI

[] I have not received a Ripcord Coin.

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ UNIT IN 'NAM _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Will a family member(s) be attending? If yes what are their names? (For name tag purposes only).

Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____

THE HOTEL PROVIDES FREE TRANSPORTATION FROM THE AIRPORT.

Registration fee of \$ _____ is enclosed for # _____ Adults and # _____ children under 18.
\$35 for children under 18. For adults see discounts below !

DISCOUNTS FOR EARLY REGISTRATION:

Before June 1 2021, \$75 per adult
June 1 through July 9, 2021 \$80 per adult,
July 10 through August 20, 2021 \$85 per adult.
After August 20, 2021 \$90 per adult.

Your registration fee covers the cost of the snacks, beverages, hot hors doers on Friday night and dinner on Saturday.

This form and fee, due no later than Sept. 25, 2021.

Make your check payable to "RIPCORDEREUNION ASSOCIATION"

Mail your check with this form to:

Lee Widjeskog, 493 Stillman Ave., Bridgeton, NJ 08302.

Questions? Call Lee at 856-451-1108 before 29 Sept 2021. (After call 609-774-6951)

BASIC AGENDA

Wednesday, Oct 6: Hospitality suite opens at 1200 hours. (Self guided tours and shopping)

Thursday, Oct 7: Hospitality suite opens at 1200 hours. (Golf in the AM) (Self guided tours)

Friday, Oct 8: Hospitality 1200 Hours. Hot hors doers 1730 hours

Saturday, Oct 9: Business meeting for association business in Hospitality room (1100 hrs)

Dinner with cash bar starting at 1700 hours done by 2200 hours.

Sunday, Oct 10 Homeward bound

Thursday golf outing (a separate fee). Check if you will play [] .

HOTEL RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE SEPERATELY

CALL 417-864-7333 for Univ. Plaza Hotel GROUP CODE: RIPCORDEREUNION

If Plaza is full try nearby hotels

**TRU at 855-680-3239, Vandivort at 417-832-1515 , Best Western Rt. 66
at 417-866-1963**