

Dear Bill,

When the VHPA Newsletter arrived a sentence of your article Historical Committee wants photos, videos which read "...I received copies of DFC orders which tell the story of one day in the life of a unit--that's what we're looking for...." caught my eye. When the 1990 Membership Directory came out, I prepared a VHPA Unit History Survey and mailed it to you. The thought of sending a copy of anything additional didn't occur to me.

The events surrounding my award of the Distinguished Flying Cross (DFC) don't tell much about A Company, 101st Aviation Battalion; however, my award says something about missions and taskings and speaks favorably about the actions of my battalion commander with regard to living-up to his word and following through the awards board deliberations after he left command.

Attached are those events that time has not taken from me, i.e., I can substantiate everything written. The citation on the DFC and my recollection of events differ; however, the citation is historically accurate. My mission was to insert a pathfinder team that was going to evaluate some fortifications the ground unit had discovered and to recover some uniform and equipment items. As is frequently the case, fate had other plans for the sequence of events. Our mission ended in success and for me it became a splendid learning experience.

I was surprised and honored to be awarded the DFC. Surprised because I had received several awards upon departure. Honored because of the significance of the DFC. My chronology of events is accurate but skimpy!

Sincerely,

Dennis P. "Duke" Vasey
Colonel, USA, Retired