



## Military Corner

# 101st Airborne Division

The 101st Airborne Division—the "Screaming Eagles"—is a U.S. Army modular light infantry division trained for air assault operations. During World War II, it was renowned for its role in Operation "Overlord", the D-Day landings on June 6, 1944, in Normandy, France, Operation "Market Garden", the liberation of Holland and action during the "Battle of the Bulge" around the city of Bastogne, Belgium.



During the Vietnam War, the 101st Airborne Division fought in several major campaigns and battles including the fight for "Hamburger Hill" in May of 1969. Upon its arrival in Vietnam in 1965, the division was an airborne unit. In 1968, it was redesignated first an *airmobile division*, then in 1974 as an *air assault division*. Thus, the division went from airplanes as the primary method of delivering troops into combat, to the use of helicopters as the way the division entered battle.

The division retains the "Airborne" tab because two of its units, the pathfinder company and the parachute rigger company are both still on "jump status". Many modern members of the 101st are graduates of the U.S. Army Air Assault School and wear the Air Assault Badge. The badge is a requirement for holding a leadership position. Division headquarters is at Fort Campbell, KY.

In the war on terrorism, the division has served in Iraq and Afghanistan. It has one of the most recognized shoulder patches in the U. S. Military and is one of the most highly decorated units in the U.S. Army. [[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/101st\\_Airborne\\_Division](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/101st_Airborne_Division)]

*101st paratrooper, among the first to make successful landings on the continent, holds a Nazi flag captured in a village assault. Utah Beach, St. Marcouf, France. 8 June 1944*

