



4TH INFANTRY
DIVISION



1ST BATTALION
50TH INFANTRY

1ST PLATOON



"A" COMPANY



PRIVATE FIRST
CLASS



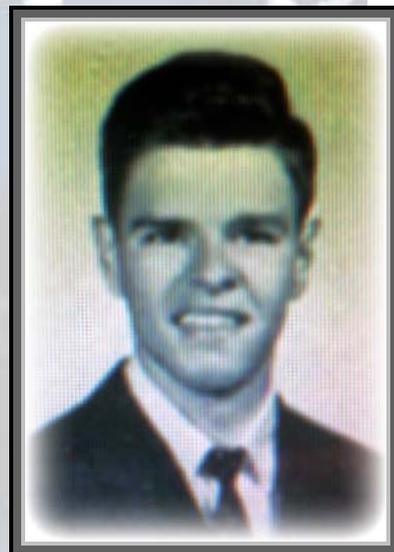
INFANTRYMAN

RICHARD LEWIS BELINGE

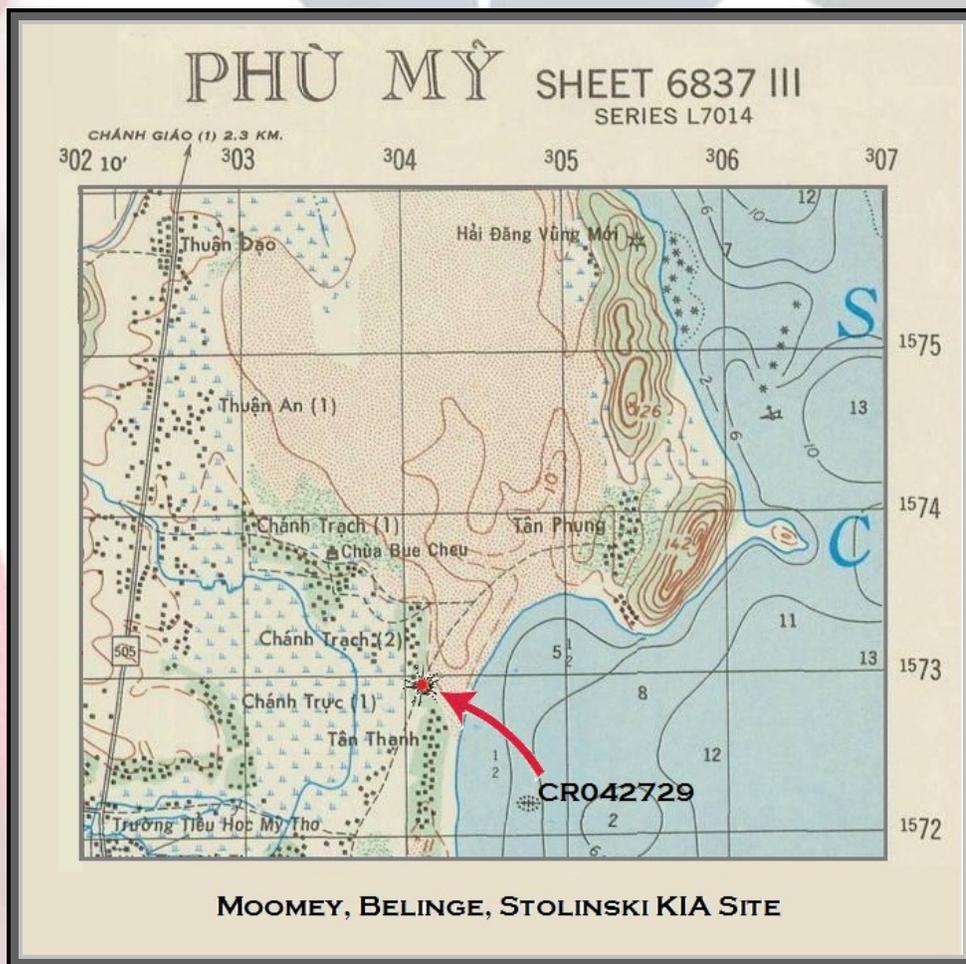
"A" Company, 1st Platoon, 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 50th Infantry
PFC, E3, US55987673, MOS 11B10
Home of Record: Springfield, MO

Date of Birth: August 31, 1945, Age at time of loss: 22, Single
4th Infantry Division, Binh Dinh Province, Republic of Vietnam
Start of Tour: December 21, 1967, Date of Casualty: March 26, 1968, Days in Country: 96
Casualty Type A1, OED, Panel 46E - Row 029

Private First Class Richard Belinge was killed along with Charles Moomey and Jim Stolinski when the Armored Personnel Carrier (APC) they occupied, riding point, hit a large mine. Several other members of the 1st Platoon were injured in the blast as well, including Bob Wuestenberg, who described the event for our files. He relates: "I recall moving in the sand along a tree-lined bank to our left. Stolinski asked if he could drive the APC...and he and the driver switched. Stolinski maneuvered the APC into a left hand turn to climb the bank and hit the mine".



A map of the location of the incident (CR042729) is shown below:

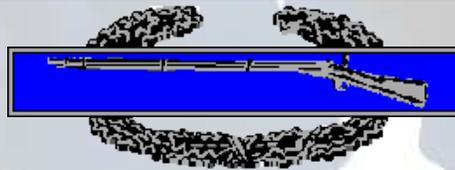


Continued...

Richard Belinge is buried at Springfield National Cemetery,
1702 East Seminole Street, Springfield, MO.
Section 34, Site 1064



RICHARD BELINGE'S AWARDS AND DECORATIONS



Combat Infantry Badge



THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL
FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE

HQ 173RD AIRBORNE BRIGADE (SEPARATE)

GENERAL ORDERS NUMBER 1052

18 APRIL 1968

FOR DISTINGUISHING HIMSELF BY OUTSTANDING MERITORIOUS SERVICE IN CONNECTION WITH GROUND OPERATIONS AGAINST A HOSTILE FORCE IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM DURING THE PERIOD FROM DECEMBER 1967 TO MAY 1968. THROUGH HIS UNTIRING EFFORTS AND PROFESSIONAL ABILITY, HE CONSISTENTLY OBTAINED OUTSTANDING RESULTS. HE WAS QUICK TO GRASP THE IMPLICATIONS OF NEW PROBLEMS WITH WHICH HE WAS FACED AS A RESULT OF THE EVER-CHANGING SITUATIONS INHERENT IN THE COUNTERINSURGENCY OPERATION AND TO FIND WAYS AND MEANS TO SOLVE THOSE PROBLEMS. THE ENERGETIC APPLICATION OF THIS EXTENSIVE KNOWLEDGE HAS MATERIALLY CONTRIBUTED TO THE EFFORTS OF THE UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM TO ASSIST THAT COUNTRY IN RIDDING ITSELF OF THE COMMUNIST THREAT TO ITS FREEDOM. HIS INITIATIVE, ZEAL, SOUND JUDGMENT AND DEVOTION TO DUTY HAVE BEEN IN THE HIGHEST TRADITION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY AND REFLECT GREAT CREDIT ON HIM AND ON THE MILITARY SERVICE.



Bronze
Star



Purple
Heart



National
Defense



Vietnam
Service



Vietnam
Campaign