



DENNIS EDWARD HINTON

"A" Company, Executive Officer, 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 50th Infantry
First Lieutenant, O2, O5334402, MOS 1542

Home of Record: Englewood, CO

Date of Birth: September 18, 1943, Age at time of loss: 25, Single

173rd Airborne Brigade (Separate), Binh Dinh Province, Republic of Vietnam

Start of Tour: September 8, 1967, Date of Casualty: May 5, 1968, Days in Country: 240

Casualty Type A1, ARM, Panel 55E - Row 017

Dennis Hinton had distinguished himself on two occasions previous to his death. At the outset of the Battle of Tam Quan in December of 1967, his APC led the advance of troops in the push to relieve 9th Cavalry "Blues" (Infantry troops). His driver was killed in the action that allowed the pinned down Blues to pull back. LT. Hinton was Recommended for the nation's second highest award for the action; The Distinguished Service Cross, but the award was downgraded to a Valorous Bronze Star. On January 23rd, "A" Company again was in action at the Battle of Trung Thanh. LT Hinton was awarded the Bronze Star for Valor for his actions that day. Lieutenant Hinton, while acting as Company Commander of "A" Company, was killed In Action on May 5, 1968, near the villages of An Bao in Binh Dinh Province, "A" Company forces were attacked and outnumbered 10 to 1 by a Regiment of the North Vietnamese Army. "A" Company forces were overrun and took heavy casualties when Charlie Company was called in to reinforce the besieged Alpha Co. Upon arrival, the enemy, who had fallen silent to allow the "C" Company troops to enter the ambush zone, opened fire with an intense and sustained barrage of small arms, automatic weapons and B40 Rocket fire from three sides. 50th Infantry Archive Documentation shows that Lt Hinton was struck by a gunshot wound to his head during the initial volley of fire and died instantly and did not suffer.



Fierce fighting ensued on both 1/50th Companies as additional reinforcements from "B" Company, 1/50th Infantry and "B" Company, 1/69th Armor were called in to battle the huge enemy force.

Read about the Battle of An Bao (Condensed Version):

<http://www.ichiban1.org/pdf/Memorial/AnBaoCondensed.pdf>

Declassified An Bao After Action Report, Daily Staff Journal and Air Report:

<http://www.ichiban1.org/pdf/Memorial/AnBaoExpanded.pdf>

Dennis Hinton is buried at Fort Logan National Cemetery, 3698 S. Sheridan Blvd, Denver, CO 80235, Plot P-2096



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A map of the location of the Battle of An Bao in Binh Dinh Province is shown below:



DENNIS HINTON'S AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:



Combat Infantry Badge



THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL WITH "V" DEVICE FOR VALOR

HQ, 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION (AIRMOBILE)

GENERAL ORDERS NUMBER 5265

19 JUNE, 1968

FOR HEROISM, NOT INVOLVING PARTICIPATION IN AERIAL FLIGHT, IN CONNECTION WITH MILITARY OPERATIONS AGAINST A HOSTILE FORCE IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM. FIRST LIEUTENANT HINTON DISTINGUISHED HIMSELF BY EXCEPTIONALLY VALOROUS ACTION ON 23 JANUARY 1968, WHILE SERVING AS EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF COMPANY A, 1ST BATTALION (MECHANIZED), 50TH INFANTRY DURING A COMBAT MISSION NEAR MY CHANH, REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM. WHEN HIS UNIT BECAME ENGAGED WITH A NUMERICALLY SUPERIOR ENEMY FORCE, LIEUTENANT HINTON CAME UNDER INTENSE HOSTILE FIRE AS HE DIRECTED EFFECTIVE SUPPRESSIVE FIRE ON THE INSURGENT'S EMPLACEMENTS. DISREGARDING HIS OWN SAFETY, LIEUTENANT HINTON MOVED TO A FORWARD FIGHTING POSITION IN ORDER TO ADMINISTER FIRST AID AND DIRECT THE EVACUATION OF HIS WOUNDED COMRADES. HIS LEADERSHIP AND ACTIONS CONTRIBUTED GREATLY TO THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF HIS UNIT'S MISSION. LIEUTENANT HINTON'S DISPLAY OF PERSONAL BRAVERY AND DEVOTION TO DUTY WAS IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MILITARY SERVICE AND REFLECTS GREAT CREDIT UPON HIMSELF, HIS UNIT, AND THE UNITED STATES ARMY.



Bronze Star w/2 olc

Air Medal

Purple Heart

National Defense

Vietnam Service

Vietnam Campaign