

1st Field Force Vietnam







2ND BATTALION, 17TH FIELD ARTILLERY







STEPHEN ÅLAN JORDAN "B" Battery, 2nd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery Attached Forward Observer working with: "B" Company and the Scout Platoon, 1st Battalion (mechanized), 50th Infantry Corporal, E4, RA18852057, MOS 13E40, Home of Record: Monrovia, CA Date of Birth: October 28, 1949, Age at time of loss: 18, Married I Field Force Vietnam(FO), Binh Dinh Province, Republic of Vietnam Start of Tour: February 25, 1968, Date of Casualty: August 25, 1968, Days in Country: 182 Casualty Type A1, MFW, Panel 46W - Row 016

On the 25th of August, 1968, elements of "B" Company and the Scout Platoon were attacked at 9:40 AM by an estimated Company of enemy soldiers at coordinates BR 295435 (See Map on next page). Heavy fire rained down on the American forces in the form of Small Arms, Automatic Weapons and "B-40" Rocket fire.

Corporal Stephen Jordan, the forward artillery observer, was killed in the initial volley and, as a result, could not call in Artillery support during the fiercest fighting of the battle. Helicopter Gunships were the first to arrive in support and sprayed the enemy with their arsenal of automatic weapons and rockets.



Charlie Company was combat assaulted to a position to the south of the fighting and moved towards the men under fire. They may no resistance as the enemy withdrew i

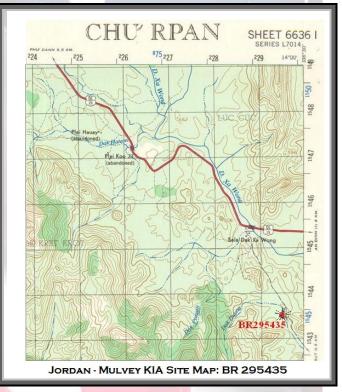
under fire. They met no resistance as the enemy withdrew in another direction.

Also killed in the fighting was Corporal Francis Mulvey of "B" Company. The enemy left 5 dead on the battlefield and obviously carried off many others. Captured were 1 AK-47, 2 B-40 Rocket Launchers, a B-40 Rocket Launcher Sight

and miscellaneous ammunition and clothing. A map of the location of the Battle is shown on the right.

Another Forward Observer from Jordan's unit, Rick Hambley, who worked with the 50th Infantry's Short Range Ambush Platoon, was with the relief forces that raced from nearby LZ Schueller...but by the time they arrived, the fighting was over. Rick wrote:

"I remember that day like it was yesterday. The Short Range Ambush Platoon I worked with was 'standing down' at LZ Schueller when we heard all hell break loose in the direction of Bridge #25. We immediately mounted the Platoon's Armorea



mounted the Platoon's Armored Personnel Carriers (APC's) and raced down Highway 19. When we arrived, there were Cobra Gunships working over the trees from which the ambush had come. The 'B' Company APCs were returning fire as well and we pulled up with all weapons firing along the flanks of the trail, but the enemy had melted back into the jungle.

Steve was a very easy going guy. He was always joking with everyone and took pride in showing us pictures of his wife and young son. He was from California and kind of had that 'surfer dude' attitude. Not too many days go by that I don't think fondly of him. It was my privilege and honor to have served with him.''

Stephen Jordan is buried at Live Oak Memorial Park, 200 East Duarte Road, Monrovia, Los Angeles County, California.



Awards and Decorations of Steve Jordan*:



* It is most likely that Corporal Jordan received a posthumous award, but we have no documentation to show this. If you are a family member and/or can verify more awards for this memorial, please contact <u>Jim Sheppard</u>, <u>50th Infantry</u> Association Historian.