



1ST
AIR CAVALRY
DIVISION

BERNARD JOHN "BUTCH" BURNS, JR.

3rd Platoon, "B" Company, 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 50th Infantry

Specialist 4th Class, E4, US52678078, MOS 11B20

Home of Record: York, PA

Date of Birth: July 16, 1946, Age at time of loss: 21, Single

1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), Binh Dinh Province, Republic of Vietnam

Start of Tour: September 1, 1967, Date of Casualty: February 6, 1968, Days in Country:
158

Casualty Type A1, OED, Panel 37E - Row 051

Specialist Bernard "Butch" Burns was killed while "B" Company worked on a combined operation with the 41st ARVN Regiment in the eastern Nui Mieu Mountains of Binh Dinh Province on February 6th, 1968. Also killed was Lieutenant Dennis Burke.

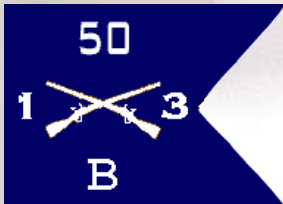


The men were killed when the Lead Armored Personnel Carrier on which they rode hit a mine estimated at 500 pounds. Aside from the two men killed, 4 others from the 3rd platoon were seriously wounded, but survived. Death was swift and the two men who died did not suffer. A map of the location of the incident is shown below.



1ST BATTALION 50TH
INFANTRY

3RD PLATOON



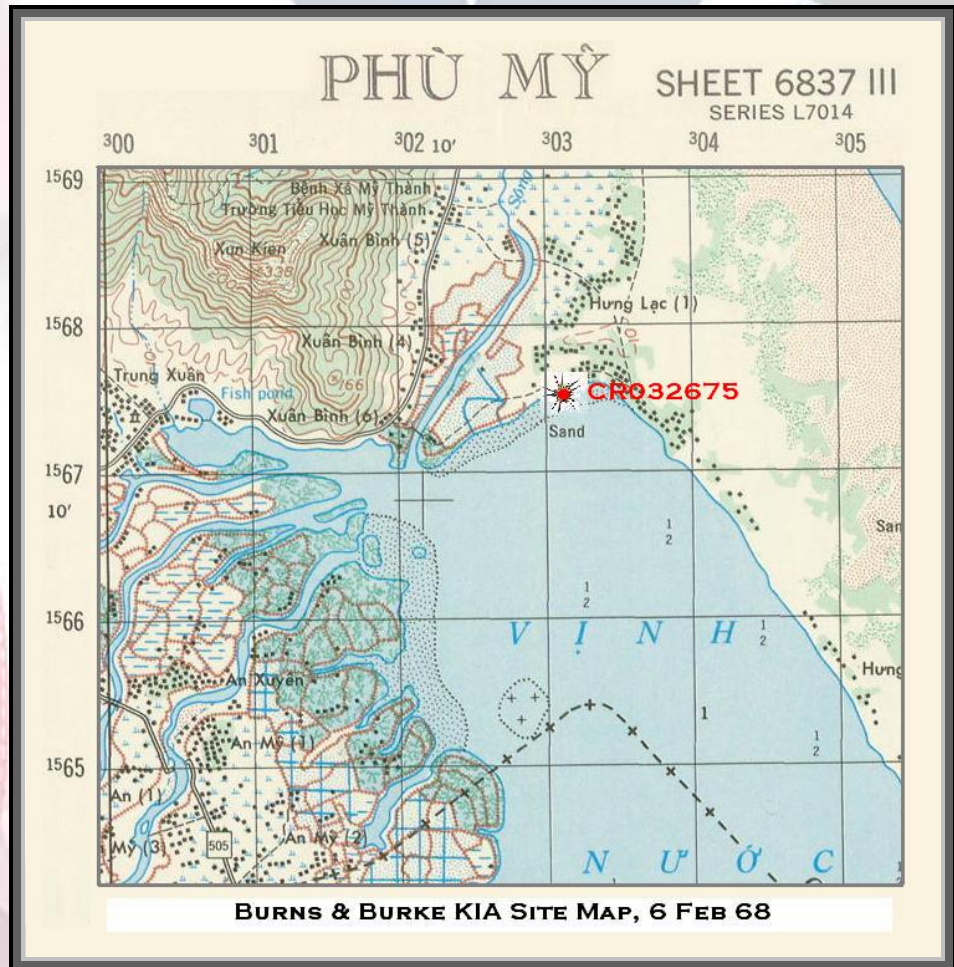
"B" COMPANY



SPECIALIST
4TH CLASS



INFANTRY



Continued...

Sp4 Burns is buried at Gettysburg National Cemetery, Annex Section, Site C2



Continued...

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS OF BUTCH BURNS



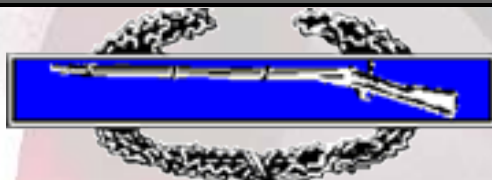
THE ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL
WITH "V" DEVICE FOR VALOR

For heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Four Burns distinguished himself by heroism in action on 2 January 1968, while serving as an Armored Personnel Carrier driver with Company B, 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 50th Infantry during a search and clear mission near An Lac, Binh Dinh Province. When his unit became heavily engaged with a large enemy force and several of his unit's Armored Personnel Carriers were damaged, Specialist Burns exposed himself to the enemy fire as he skillfully maneuvered his vehicle and succeeded in pulling the Armored Personnel Carriers to safety. His 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.



THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL
WITH "V" DEVICE FOR VALOR

For heroism, not involving participation in aerial flight, in connection with military operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Four Burns distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous action on 6 February 1968, while serving as an Armored Personnel Carrier driver with Company B, 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 50th Infantry during a combat mission near Xuan Binh, Binh Dinh Province. While his unit was sweeping an enemy mined and booby trapped road, Specialist Burns volunteered to move his vehicle to the forward position to provide covering fire for the mine sweeping platoon. At this time Specialist Burns' vehicle ran over a pressure activated booby trap. Specialist Burns was mortally wounded by the resulting explosion. His 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.



Combat Infantry Badge



Bronze
Star
(Valor)



Army
Commendation
(Valor)



Air
Medal



Purple
Heart



Good
Conduct



National
Defense



Vietnam
Service



Vietnam
Campaign