

CRAIG ALLEN ROOD

"B" Company, 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 50th Infantry
Specialist 4th Class, E4, US56498176, MOS 11B2P
Home of Record: Minneapolis, MN

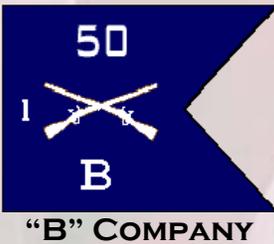
Date of Birth: June 2, 1947, Age at time of loss: 20, Single
173rd Airborne Brigade (Separate), Binh Dinh Province, Republic of Vietnam
Start of Tour: September 1, 1967, Date of Casualty: May 6, 1968, Days in Country: 248
Casualty Type A1, MFW, Panel 55E - Row 029



173RD AIRBORNE
BRIGADE



1ST BATTALION
50TH INFANTRY



"B" COMPANY



SPECIALIST
4TH CLASS



INFANTRYMAN

At noon, on May 5, 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 50th Infantry, "A" Company forces were attacked and by a regiment of the North Vietnamese Army. The 99th NVA "Black Star" Rocket Regiment had sent 3 Battalions armed with B40, RPG2 and RPG7 rockets as their primary weapons. Outnumbered 10 to 1, "A" Company forces were overrun and took heavy casualties. Charlie Company was called in to reinforce the besieged Alpha Company. Upon arrival, the enemy, who had ceased fire 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. Fierce fighting ensued on both 1/50th Companies and additional reinforcements from "B" Company, 1/50th Infantry and "B" Company, 1/69th Armor were called in to battle the huge enemy force.



American forces withdrew while Air strikes and Artillery fire was called in on enemy positions. A Night position was established approximately 1500 meters from the initial contact. On May 6th, At 3:30 AM the enemy forces attacked the night location with at least 200 Mortar and Anti-Tank rounds as well as small arms fire from 4 locations. Craig Rood was killed instantly by a mortar round during this attack. Also killed from "B" Company during the Rocket and Mortar attack was Rodney Crandall. The enemy was eventually silenced, but one mortar round had hit a store of ammunition and the resultant explosions and ammunition "cook off" went on for several hours. Contact was broken at approximately 5:00 AM and although sweeps and counter attacks took

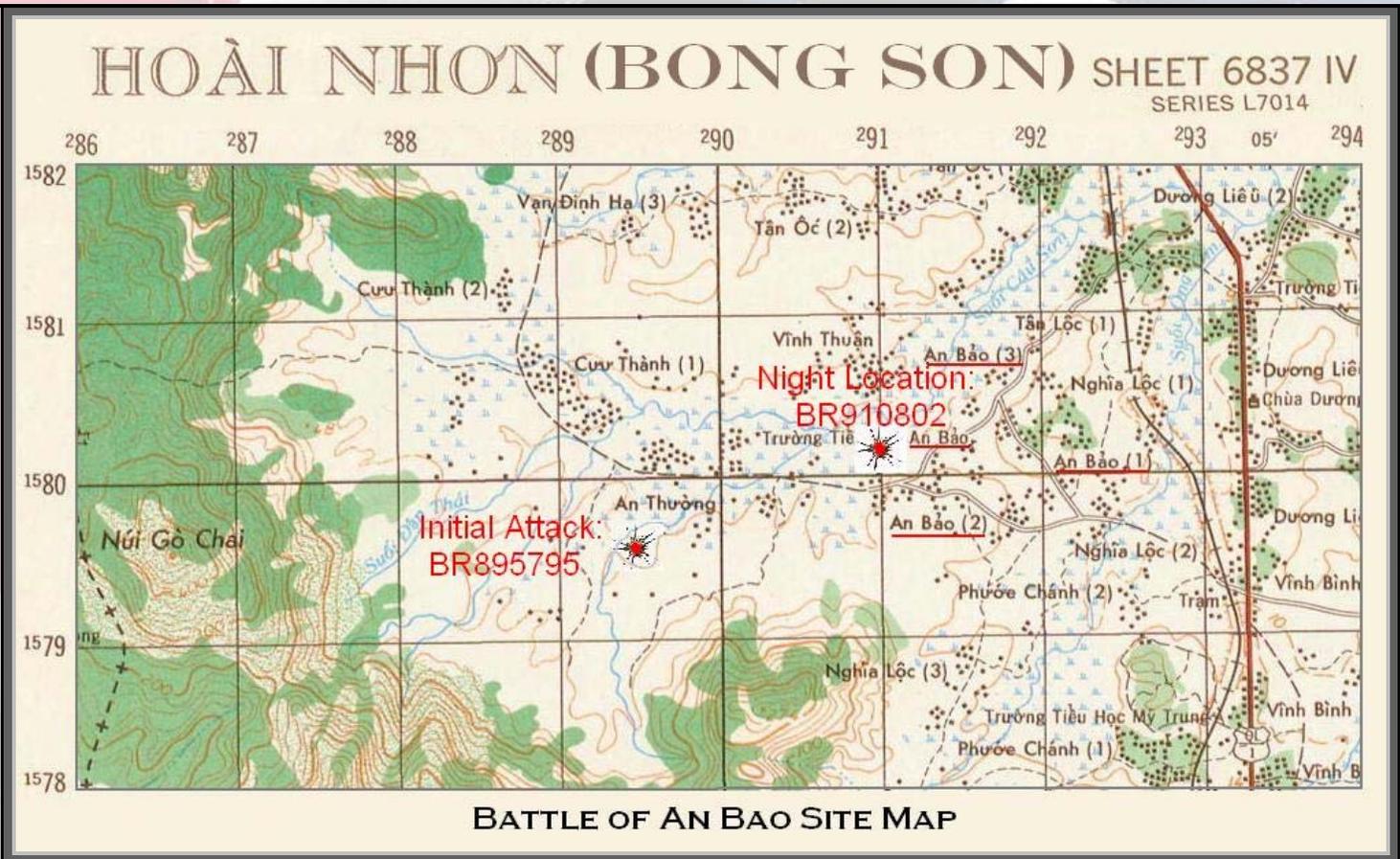
place all day on the 6th and into the 7th of May, no more enemy elements could be found. Read a brief account of the Battle of An Bao:

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

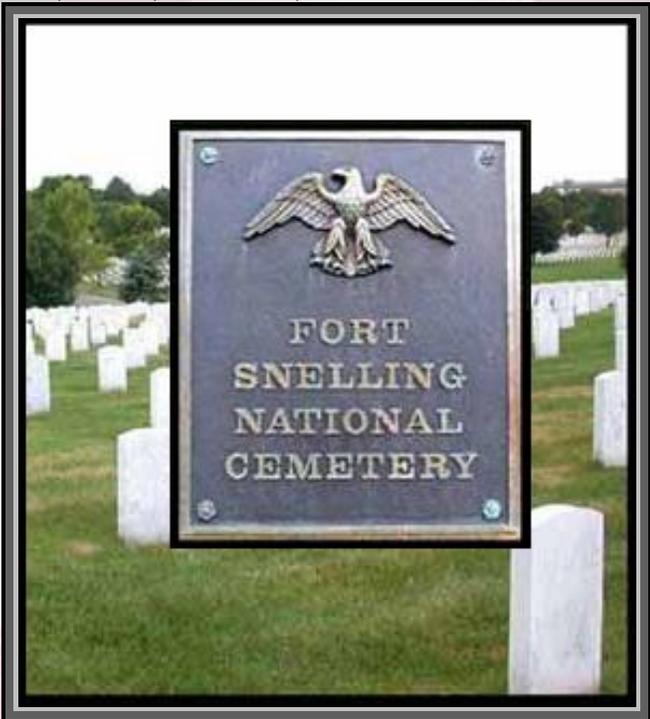
Declassified An Bao After Action Report, Daily Staff Journal and Air Report:
<http://www.ichiban1.org/pdf/Memorial/AnBaoExpanded.pdf>

Continued...

A map of the location of the Battle of An Bao in Binh Dinh Province is shown below with the night location where Craig Rood was killed indicated:



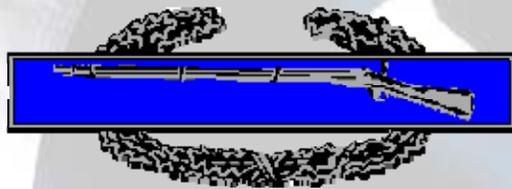
Craig Rood is buried at Fort Snelling National Cemetery, 7601 34th Ave, South Minneapolis, Hennepin County, Minnesota, 55450, Section P, Site 3411.



CRAIG ROOD'S AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:



Airborne Jump Wings (Basic Parachutist Badge)



Combat Infantry Badge



HQ 173RD AIRBORNE BRIGADE (SEPARATE)

GENERAL ORDERS NUMBER 1563

7 JUNE, 1968

SPECIALIST CRAIG ROOD DISTINGUISHED HIMSELF BY OUTSTANDING MERITORIOUS SERVICE IN CONNECTION WITH GROUND OPERATIONS AGAINST A HOSTILE FORCE IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM DURING THE PERIOD FROM OCTOBER 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. SPECIALIST ROOD'S INITIATIVE, ZEAL, SOUND JUDGMENT AND DEVOTION TO DUTY WERE IN THE HIGHEST TRADITION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY AND REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT ON HIM AND ON THE MILITARY SERVICE.

