



1S

CAVALRY
DIVISION
(AIRMOBILE)

5TH BATTALION



7TH CAVALRY
REGIMENT

INFUSED FROM



1ST BATTALION
50TH INFANTRY

50



"C" COMPANY



SPECIALIST
4TH CLASS



INFANTRYMAN

ARNOLD EDWARD MELISH

"D" Company, 5th Battalion, 7th Cavalry**

Infused from "C" Company, 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 50th Infantry

Specialist 4th Class, E4, US51611001, MOS 11B20

Home of Record: New York, NY

Date of Birth: November 12, 1946, Age at time of loss: 21, Single

1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), Thua Thien (Hue) Province, Republic of Vietnam

Start of Tour: September 1, 1967, Date of Casualty: February 12, 1968, Days in Country: 164

Casualty Type A1, MFW, Panel 39E – Row 009

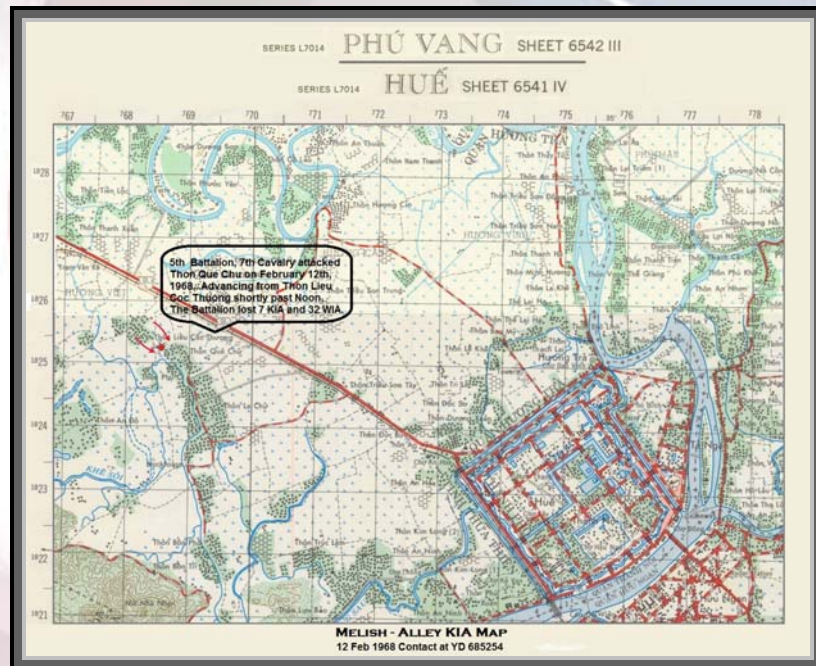
Arnold Melish was a member of Charlie Company and was transferred to the 5th Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) sometime after Late October of 1967.

Specialist Melish was killed Northwest of Hue near the end of the two week siege by North Vietnamese Army Units during the TET Offensive of February, 1968. His unit was attacking Thon Que Chu on February 12th, 1968, advancing across the rice paddies from Thon Kieu Coc shortly past Noon. In heavy fighting, the 5th Battalion, 7th Cavalry lost 7 men KIA and 32 additional men wounded. Also killed in the action was former "D" Company, 1st Platoon, 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 50th Infantry man Morris Alley.

This battle took place only days after elements of the 2nd Bn, 12th Cavalry, tangled with NVA Forces in this same location. It was later learned that the hornets nest both units fought was the Tactical Operations Center and supporting forces for the invading NVA who had overrun Hue. (Ref: "The Lost Battalion" by Charles A. Krohn)



A Map of the location of the action near Hue is shown below:



Continued...

ARNOLD MELISH'S AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:



Combat Infantry Badge



THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL
FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE

HQ 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION (AIRMOBILE)

GENERAL ORDERS NUMBER 4478

10 JUNE 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 1 SEPTEMBER 1967 TO 12 FEBRUARY 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