

Account of June 13

In the report they report that a spotter plane and the Battalion Commander's (Lt. Barker) Helicopter collided and all 7 on board both birds were killed. This is what happened.

A CO was walking across a large open rice paddy with 1st platoon in the lead. I was a squad leader at the time. We were headed in single file toward a tree line that we had received sniper fire from.

The point man was a black guy who I did not know and do not recall his name followed by the M-60 guy (Al Burnnette), someone else, Lt Mathews and me. The entire company was behind us in single file.

The point man was about 75 yards from the tree line when he was blown up by a command detonated mine and all hell broke loose. The M-60 guy was isolated out in front and was shooting like hell and yelling for ammo.

Everybody passed ammo up and I was the last guy between the men and the M-60. I was carrying ammo back and forth.

The Lt. was standing up yelling orders when he got shot thru the neck. It knocked him down and he got right back up and started yelling orders again. The bullet went thru

the fat of his neck and hardly phased him. All the time we were under fire Captain Hendrix had the rest of the company coming forward to assault the tree line.

A Medivac Helicopter came in for the point man and Mathews and as it was taking off Barker's Helicopter and the spotter plane collided in mid air. Both planes hit the ground about 100 yards to our flank. So we are missing the Point Man and Lt Mathews on the June 13 dust offs.

Let me know if you can get this corrected or if you want me to convey this info to anyone else.

Thanks again for all of your hard work on the website.

Jim Quirk
Old Guard