

Who Am I?

Name: SP5 Raymond T. Bustard

Arrived RVN: November 1967

Left RVN: November 1968

Company: HHC, Mechanics

email: mbustard1@gmail.com, Mike is Raymonds son.



From Captain Mike Bustard, Son of Raymond Bustard:

From what I understand/remember, my father graduated from Montclair High School (Montclair, NJ) in 1965. He enlisted in the Army on March 16, 1966, and completed basic training at Fort Dix, NJ. He attended AIT at the Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD, where he was trained as tracked vehicle mechanic (63C). In August 1966, my father's first duty station was in Baumholder, Germany with HHC in 2/68 Armored Battalion. While in Germany, my father submitted a voluntary transfer to Vietnam. In August 1967, my father was assigned as a mechanic in HHC of the 2/22. I'm not sure when, but he was moved from the mechanic section to the Recon section. While in Recon, he served as the first Section Leader, with a callsign of "Fullback Romeo 72". In this role, my father received an ARCOM with "V" Device for action that he took during an ambush ("Battle of the Cotton Bowl") on 19 September 1968. One of his friends in Vietnam was SSG James Uttermark, who was KIA in 1969. Following his redeployment in November 1968, my father was assigned to D Troop, 6th ACR in Fort Meade, MD. He ETS'd in March 1969.

I would definitely like to know who is in the photos and if anyone can tell me about my father's service.



Basecamp.jpg (904x602)



Biking on Patrol.jpg (927x616)



Black Virgin Mountain.jpg (908x606)



Bridge Vehicle.JPG (992x688)



Buildings in the distance.jpg (918x610)



Bunkers.JPG | A view of the outhouses at Dau Tieng base camp by the motor pool. (992x688)



Burning Hooch close up.jpg (900x600)



Burning Hooch.JPG (992x672)



Church.JPG | Catholic Church in the town of Trang Bang. The Catholic school there was a popular place to toss candy and C-Rations to the kids waving to passing patrols. Sadly the church was shot to pieces during the fighting that took place in and around Trang Bang during the months of April and May 1968. (Thanks to Tom Petro for the recollections.) (976x672)



Cobra Attack Helicopter.jpg (904x603)



Colt .45.JPG (976x672)



Damaged -Widow Maker-.jpg (913x607)



Damaged M113.JPG | M113 that was damaged by an RPG during an ambush. (Thanks to Tom Petro for the recollections.) (992x688)



Dismount during Mounted Patrol.JPG (1017x687)



Dismounted on Roadway.JPG | Dismounted patrol to protect the engineers who were sweeping the road for mines. (Thanks to Tom Petro for the recollections.) (976x672)



Dismounted Patrol on Roadway.JPG | Dismounted patrol to protect the engineers who were sweeping the road for mines. (Thanks to Tom Petro for the recollections.) (976x672)



Dismounted Patrol.JPG (976x672)



Dismounted Photographer.JPG | A combat photographer along for a patrol. Possibly Robert Rossow. (992x672)



Dismounted.jpg (906x603)



Explosion in the distance.JPG (976x672)



Fooling Around before a Patrol.JPG (976x688)



Hanging out behind a M113.JPG | Ray McCormick facing the camera. (976x672)



Hanging out behind a track.jpg (840x559)



HHC M577.jpg (883x589)



Hueys Landing.jpg (885x590)



M60 ALVB.jpg (844x563)



M109 Howitzer.jpg (892x595)



M109 SP Artillery.JPG | "The track mounted 155 mm arty? When we would be out in a battalion size operation they would roll with us. And after setting up would supply close arty ground support to the infantry companies patrolling the area. Also H & I's, it was hard to sleep at night or nap during the day with these big guys going off all day and all night." (Thanks to Tom Petro for the recollections.) (1021x694)



M113.JPG (976x656)



Mounted Patrol (2).JPG | Tracks lined up to leave the motor pool of Tay Ninh or Dau Tieng. (Thanks to Tom Petro for the recollections.) (1013x713)



Moving Sandbags.jpg (1107x738)



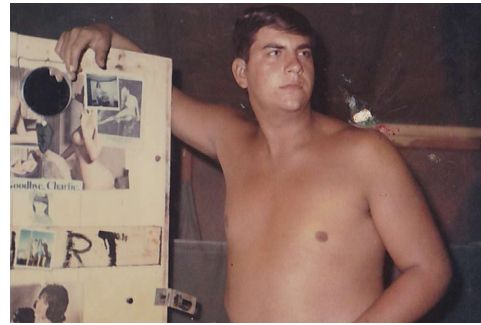
Perimeter Bunker.jpg (907x603)



Posing while dismounted.jpg (852x569)



Posing with a damaged M113.JPG | M113 that was damaged by an RPG during an ambush. (Thanks to Tom Petro for the recollections.) (992x672)



Posing with the ladies.jpg (1006x670)



Prepping.jpg (924x615)



RATELO.JPG (976x672)



Recon Platoon Motorpool.jpg (859x572)



Recovery Vehicle.JPG | Tank Retriever (1232x976)



Resupply.JPG (1440x992)



Riding a Bike on a Patrol.JPG (976x672)



Road to Dau Tieng.jpg (887x590)



Roadway.JPG | "Paved road, blacktop, that was the approach to the suburbs of Tay Ninh city, and we all breathed a sigh of relief when we got to that point, that meant we were safe." (Thanks to Tom Petro for the recollections.) (976x672)



Setting up an Antenna.jpg (906x604)



Small Helicopter.jpg (795x530)



Small Helo.JPG (976x688)



SP Artillery Pieces.JPG | Artillery coming in to set up operations at Fire Base Grant, notice Nui Ba Den in the background. (Thanks to Tom Petro for the recollections.) (992x672)



SSG.jpg (910x607)



Staging for a Mounted Patrol.JPG | Tracks lined up to leave the motor pool of Tay Ninh or Dau Tieng. Larry Heinemann is manning the .50 cal, David Reese is in the driver's hatch, Myron Henneman is holding the antenna, and an unknown Soldier is behind them. (Thanks to Tom Petro and Larry Heinemann for the identifications.) (992x688)



Staging for Patrol.JPG | Tracks lined up to leave the motor pool of Tay Ninh or Dau Tieng. Larry Heinemann is manning the .50 cal. (Thanks to Tom Petro and Larry Heinemann for the identifications.) (976x688)



Tank Stuck in Mud.JPG (976x672)



Tank.JPG (976x672)



Tanks on Patrol.JPG | "The tanks. There was a time around March through May when we had shootouts every day. Or we would get shelled, or there would be booby trapped road blocks and so the tanks went with us as added protection. Often the VC would fire from the tree line or drop mortars from the tree line and the tanks would just swivel their guns and blast the tree line so we could continue our patrols." (Thanks to Tom Petro for the recollections.) (976x688)



Vietnam Bus.JPG (976x672)



Vietnam Civilian.JPG (992x672)



Village.JPG (1006x692)



Watching Impacting Rounds.jpg
(863x575)