

**BROMLEY HOWARD GERMAN****Class 25-66**

is honored on Panel 33E, Row 57 of  
the Vietnam Veterans Memorial

**Full Name:** BROMLEY HOWARD GERMAN  
**Wall Name:** BROMLEY H GERMAN  
**Date of Birth:** 7/31/1944  
**Date of Casualty:** 1/6/1968  
**Home of Record:** WATERBURY  
**County of Record:** NEW HAVEN COUNTY  
**State:** CT  
**Branch of Service:** ARMY  
**Rank:** 1LT  
**Casualty Country:** SOUTH VIETNAM  
**Casualty Province:** QUANG TIN

**GERMAN, BROMLEY HOWARD**

First Lieutenant (Artillery), U.S. Army  
Battery A, 3d Battalion, 82d Artillery, 196th Infantry Brigade (Light) (Separate)),  
Americal Division  
Date of Action: January 5 & 6, 1968  
Citation:

**The Distinguished Service Cross** is presented to Bromley Howard German, First Lieutenant (Artillery), U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam, while serving with Battery A, 3d Battalion, 82d Artillery, 196th Infantry Brigade (Light) (Separate), Americal Division. First Lieutenant German distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 5 and 6 January 1968 as artillery forward observer with an infantry company on combat operations in Quang Tin Province. The company was savagely attacked in the early evening of 5 January by a North Vietnamese Army force and suffered numerous casualties. Lieutenant German quickly took command of a platoon that had become separated from the main body and had lost its leader, organized a tight defensive perimeter, and directed ravaging artillery strikes on the attackers. Despite a wound received in the initial attack, he continually exposed himself to enemy weapons and coordinated defensive fires which repelled repeated assaults by the determined North Vietnamese. He realized the necessity of rejoining the company's main body and he brought savage artillery fire to within thirty meters of his platoon's position to cover its movement to the company perimeter. The company commander had been seriously wounded and evacuated, so Lieutenant German assumed command. Shortly before midnight, he moved the unit to a more tenable position in a nearby trench line and established a defensive perimeter. Despite bullets striking all

around him, he moved among his troops to encourage them and direct their fire. He fearlessly exposed himself to the withering enemy fusillade time after time throughout the morning hours and continued to repulse the insurgents' wave assault with skillfully directed artillery strikes. He was mortally wounded while gallantly leading his men in the face of numerically superior enemy force. His courageous leadership prevented the attackers from overrunning the company and inspired his men to fight on until reinforcements arrived. First Lieutenant German's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty, at the cost of his life, were in keeping with the highest tradition of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

### **The Battle of Phuoc Tuy, Hiep Duc Valley**

Hiep Duc Valley: C Company, 2-1 Infantry/ 196 BDE had set up its perimeter north of the old French road in the shadow of Hill 381 in the late afternoon. Hill 381 loomed over the valley and was part of a ridge line separating the Que Son and Hiep Duc Valleys. Charlie owned the ridge. Intelligence had placed a large NVA force (elements of the 3rd NVA RGT) on the hill which was only a few kilometers south of LZ Leslie; probably the same unit that hit 2/12 Cav's LZ Leslie on 3 January.

The unit came into contact with an overwhelming force and fought for its life in the dark jungle. Mortar rounds impacted around the company area throughout the night. Soldiers screamed in the darkness. 1LT Drake (commander after the CO was WIA) was killed instantly. Then the company Forward Observer, 1LT German took command. He played a key role in coordinating artillery and a link up with a relief company through all the confusion. Then, he was killed. There were no more officers. In the tragedy of lost leadership, enlisted men stepped up to the plate and led the platoons and company. With 1LT Drake and 1LT German lying dead next to him, RTO called gunships for support.

1LT Bromley German, Battery A, 3-82nd Artillery (FO) was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for his actions that evening.

I would be interested in hearing from anyone who was with him that night.

Posted by: MAJ Thomas Pike

Relationship: Writing a book on Que Son Vall

September 9, 2002



1LT Bromley Howard German MOS 31193 was assigned to the 198th LIB, Americal Div. when he was killed. A lot of SFOC grads ended up in the Americal because of their shortage of company grades. I ended up in the 11th LIB of the Americal as a Rifle Company Commander even though my MOS was 31193. In 1968, being on orders to go to 5th Group was not a guarantee that you'd ever get there.

John J. Murphy  
Wilmington, DE USA  
Wednesday, May 05, 2004

**From thewall-usa.com**

I think of you every so often and recall our days at Fort Sill and Fort Bragg. You were the true soldier among us, always striving to be the best you could be. Thank you for your service to our nation and the valor you displayed so well.

Rollin (Rol) Church  
OCS Classmate & Fellow SF Soldier  
W4050 Northwoods Trail  
Wautoma, WI 54982 USA  
April 13, 2004



Lieutenant German was laid to rest with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery. Section 31, Grave 6629.