

The Fight in Graveyard Center ( The Hook )  
The Reaction Force  
Cpl McMahon "H" Co 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn 5<sup>th</sup> Marines

We had fought our way in, down the road and into the Graveyard, both Quads and the ring mount 50s blasting away at anything and everything. Before we knew it, found ourselves right at the center of the fight. I really could not leave the six by six I was on as I was loading for the .50 cal. ring mount. As I mentioned to you before the gunner in the ring mount was hit. We jumped to the side of the vehicle to look at his wound. The 50 cal ammo can was also hit when he stopped firing. I put a battle dressing on his wound while we squatted near the right side fuel tank of the vehicle. The NVA put two rounds in the fuel tank and splashed diesel fuel into our eyes.



The driver had on an USMC issue rain jacket under his flak jacket, he said: "I ain't believing they shot me in the arm!" I couldn't see his wound at first then blood poured out onto the green rubber sleeve of the rain jacket.

As I mentioned before I got the driver's M-1 Garand out of the cab of the truck and started shooting at muzzle flashes in the graveyard. The grave markers shattered when struck with the 30-06 rounds.

When it got dark Morin myself and Ron Manglit crawled around the graves looking for dead Marines, sadly we found quite a few.

I think most the guys were hit in their trucks but were able to make it to cover in the graveyard where they could not stop their wounds from bleeding.

Sorry to write so much but this triggers recollections.

Semper Fi, Charlie McMahon "H" Co 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn 5<sup>th</sup> Marines