



Stephen J. Stroub

SP5, USA

***Executed upon being taken Prisoner of War,
Hue, 5 Feb 1968***

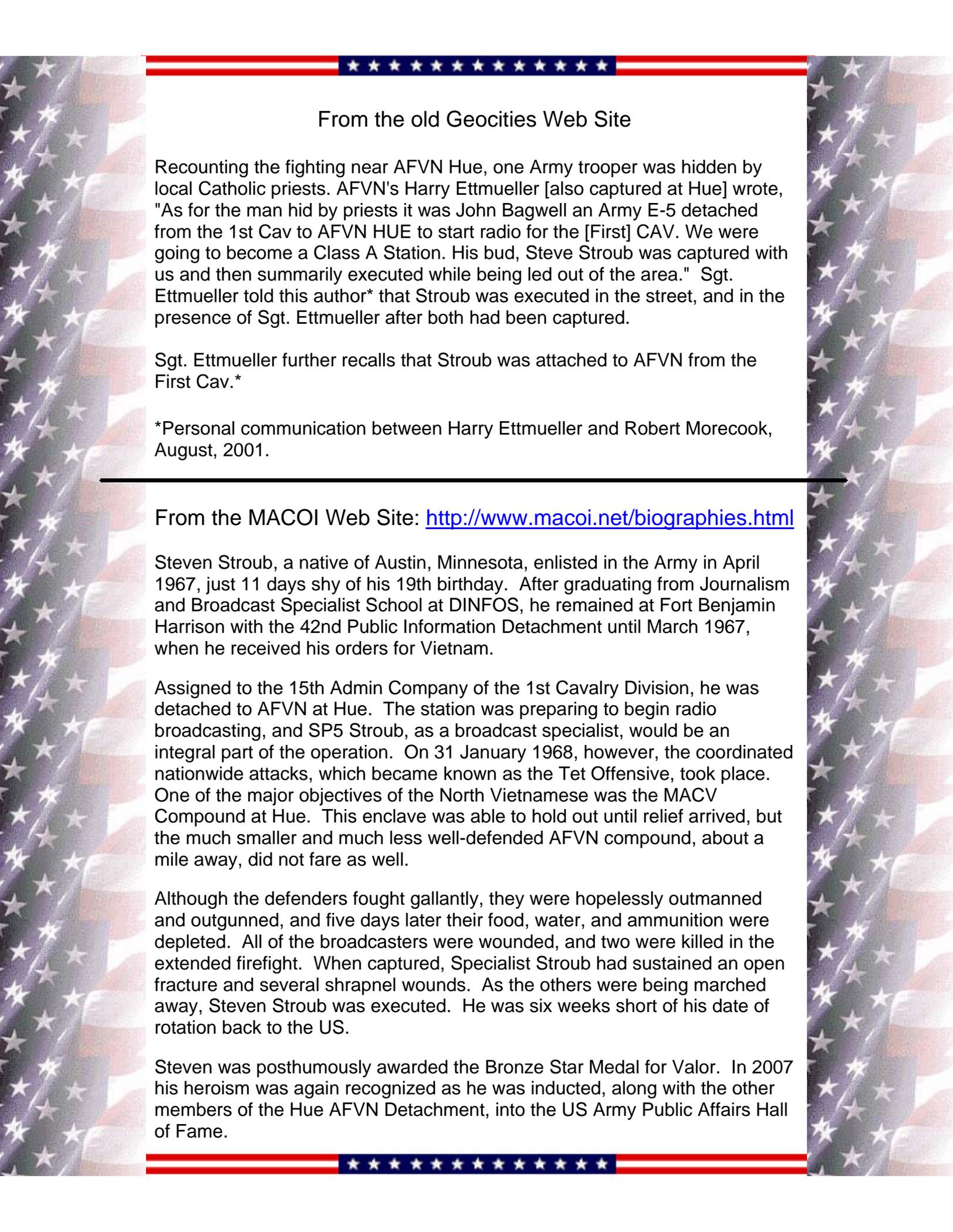
General / Personal ---
Last Name: STROUB
First Name: STEVEN JOHN
Home of Record (Official):
AUSTIN State (Official), MN
Date of Birth: April 29, 1947
Sex: Male
Race: Caucasian
Marital Status: Single

Military ---
Branch: Army
Rank: SP5
Serial Number: 16864803
Component: Regular
Pay grade: E5
MOS (Military Occupational Special Code): 71R20
Major Organization: 1st Cavalry Division

Action: ---
Start of Tour: Tuesday, March 21, 1967
Date of Casualty: Monday, February 5, 1968
Age at time of loss: 20
Casualty type: (A1) Hostile, died
Reason: Gun, small arms fire (Ground casualty)
Country: South Vietnam
Province: Thua Thien
The Wall: Pane 37E – Row 45

From **The Wall** Database

Please scroll down

The page is framed by a border of the American flag, with stars on the left and right sides and stripes at the top and bottom. A decorative horizontal bar with a row of stars is positioned above the main text area.

From the old Geocities Web Site

Recounting the fighting near AFVN Hue, one Army trooper was hidden by local Catholic priests. AFVN's Harry Ettmueller [also captured at Hue] wrote, "As for the man hid by priests it was John Bagwell an Army E-5 detached from the 1st Cav to AFVN HUE to start radio for the [First] CAV. We were going to become a Class A Station. His bud, Steve Stroub was captured with us and then summarily executed while being led out of the area." Sgt. Ettmueller told this author* that Stroub was executed in the street, and in the presence of Sgt. Ettmueller after both had been captured.

Sgt. Ettmueller further recalls that Stroub was attached to AFVN from the First Cav.*

*Personal communication between Harry Ettmueller and Robert Morecook, August, 2001.

From the MACOI Web Site: <http://www.macoi.net/biographies.html>

Steven Stroub, a native of Austin, Minnesota, enlisted in the Army in April 1967, just 11 days shy of his 19th birthday. After graduating from Journalism and Broadcast Specialist School at DINFOS, he remained at Fort Benjamin Harrison with the 42nd Public Information Detachment until March 1967, when he received his orders for Vietnam.

Assigned to the 15th Admin Company of the 1st Cavalry Division, he was detached to AFVN at Hue. The station was preparing to begin radio broadcasting, and SP5 Stroub, as a broadcast specialist, would be an integral part of the operation. On 31 January 1968, however, the coordinated nationwide attacks, which became known as the Tet Offensive, took place. One of the major objectives of the North Vietnamese was the MACV Compound at Hue. This enclave was able to hold out until relief arrived, but the much smaller and much less well-defended AFVN compound, about a mile away, did not fare as well.

Although the defenders fought gallantly, they were hopelessly outmanned and outgunned, and five days later their food, water, and ammunition were depleted. All of the broadcasters were wounded, and two were killed in the extended firefight. When captured, Specialist Stroub had sustained an open fracture and several shrapnel wounds. As the others were being marched away, Steven Stroub was executed. He was six weeks short of his date of rotation back to the US.

Steven was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star Medal for Valor. In 2007 his heroism was again recognized as he was inducted, along with the other members of the Hue AFVN Detachment, into the US Army Public Affairs Hall of Fame.