

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Headquarters 101st Airborne Division
APO San Francisco 96383

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 3991

30 April 1969

AWARD OF THE ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL WITH "V" DEVICE

SAITTA, JOSEPH J US SPECIALIST FOUR Company B 2d
Battalion (Airborne) 502d Infantry APO San Francisco 96383

Awarded: The Army Commendation Medal with "V" Device

Effective month: N/A

Date action: 26 January 1969

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For heroism in the Republic of Vietnam on 26 January 1969. Specialist Saitta distinguished himself while serving as a medical aidman in Company B, 2d Battalion, 502d Infantry, near the city of Phu Bai, Republic of Vietnam. During a search and clear mission, Specialist Saitta's platoon came under intense enemy automatic weapons fire. In the initial burst of fire, one man was seriously wounded. Specialist Saitta, with complete disregard for his own safety, moved forward with another soldier through the intense enemy automatic weapons fire to the location of the wounded man and administered first aid to him. He then sighted another wounded man lying in the direct line of enemy fire. Crawling through the intense enemy automatic weapons fire, he reached the second wounded man, who was in an open area. On several occasions, Specialist Saitta used his body as a shield to protect the wounded soldier from the enemy fire. After administering first aid to him, he carried the wounded soldier to the rear of the area and was instrumental in completing his successful evacuation. Specialist Saitta's personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

Authority: By action of the Secretary of the Army under the provisions of AR 72-5-1.