

HEADQUARTERS
1ST BRIGADE 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION
APO San Francisco 96347

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 1668

18 August 1967

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL FOR HEROISM

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

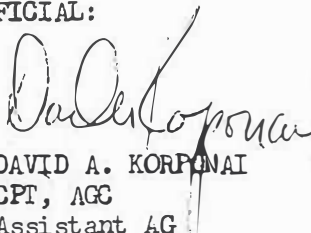
PAYNE, CHARLES E. STAFF SERGEANT E6 USA
Co A, 2d Bn, 502d Inf, 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div, APO 96347
Awarded: Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device First Oak Leaf Cluster
Date action: 9 July 1967
Theater: Republic of Viet Nam

Reason: For heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force: Sergeant Payne distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 9 July 1967, in the Republic of Viet Nam. While acting as platoon leader for his platoon, Sergeant Payne was moving his men across an open area when they were suddenly taken under a heavy volume of enemy fire and the point element was pinned down. Sergeant Payne immediately attempted to move forward and reorganize the point element but the intensity of the enemy fire increased and he was unable to move. Realizing the lead squad was not moving and the enemy element was closing in, Sergeant Payne, with complete disregard for his own safety, rushed through the bullet swept area and quickly reorganized the point element and the remainder of his platoon. As Sergeant Payne moved among his men, he exposed himself to the heavy enemy fire while directing the platoon's fire by pointing out enemy targets. Sergeant Payne, after gaining fire superiority, personally led his platoon in an assault on the enemy positions and succeeded in overrunning them, killing two enemy soldiers, wounding several, and capturing four enemy weapons. Sergeant Payne's devotion to duty and personal courage 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 direction of the President under the provisions of Executive Order 11046, 24 August 1962.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:


DAVID A. KORPONAI
CPT, AGC
Assistant AG

E. M. STRONG
MAJ, AGC
Adjutant General

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