

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

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 1678

19 August 1967

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL FOR HEROISM

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

MATHEWS, DONALD G. STAFF SERGEANT E6 USA
Co B, 2d Bn, 502d Inf, 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div, APO 96347

Awarded: Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device

Date action: 18 May 1967

Theater: Republic of Viet Nam

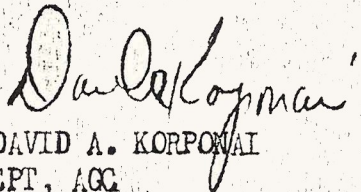
Reason: For heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force: Sergeant Mathews distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 18 May 1967 in the Republic of Viet Nam. While on a search and destroy mission, Sergeant Mathews, the squad leader for the point squad, was given the mission of moving his squad across an open rice paddy to secure the tree line so the remainder of the platoon could move across. Approximately half way across, the squad was taken under a heavy volume of enemy automatic weapons fire. On the initial burst of enemy fire, Sergeant Mathews and four of his men were wounded. Sergeant Mathews received a serious wound in the arm that rendered his arm useless. Quickly applying a tourniquet to his arm, he grabbed his weapon and began placing fire into the enemy positions. He suddenly detected an enemy soldier preparing to throw a grenade into his squad's positions. With complete disregard for his own safety, Sergeant Mathews jumped to his feet completely exposing himself to the heavy enemy fire and killed the enemy soldier. Sergeant Mathews continued to expose himself to the enemy fire while directing effective machine gun and grenade fire into the enemy positions. As a result of Sergeant Mathews' actions, two enemy were killed and one automatic weapon was captured. Sergeant Mathews' 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:

E. M. STRONG
MAJ, AGC
Adjutant General


DAVID A. KORPONAI
CPT, AGC
Assistant AG

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