

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

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 1733

25 August 1967

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL FOR HEROISM

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

FORD, ODELL SERGEANT E5 USA
HHC, 2d Bn, 502d Inf, 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div, APO 96347

4 Awarded: Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device

Date action: 11 July 1967

Theater: Republic of Viet Nam

Reason: For heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force: Sergeant Ford distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 11 July 1967 in the Republic of Viet Nam. During the early morning hours, a section of the Recondo Platoon was attacked by an estimated reinforced enemy company. In the initial stages of the battle, the enemy element concentrated a heavy volume of grenade, automatic weapons, and mortar fire on the friendly position and heavy casualties were inflicted. Sergeant Ford, serving as squad leader, realized the precarious situation that could develop and began to expose himself to the withering enemy fire while moving among his squad's positions giving his men encouragement and directing their fire by pointing out enemy positions. While moving among the positions, he was struck in the head by shrapnel and temporarily blinded. Completely disregarding his painful wound, Sergeant Ford continued to give his men encouragement. His inspiration enabled his men to successfully defend and hold their positions against the numerically superior enemy element. Sergeant Ford'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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