

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

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 5246

29 August 1968

SECTION I

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL WITH "V" DEVICE

1. TC 320. The following AWARDS are announced.

BRIDGES, GARY C FIRST LIEUTENANT INFANTRY Headquarters and Headquarters Company 2d Brigade 101st Air Cavalry Division APO San Francisco 96383

Awarded: The Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device

Date action: 12 March 1968

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 12 March 1968. First Lieutenant Bridges distinguished himself while serving as a platoon leader with Company C, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 501st Infantry. Company C was on a combat operation near Hue, Republic of Vietnam when the left flank sustained heavy enemy fire from strongly fortified positions. Immediately, First Lieutenant Bridges maneuvered his platoon from his company's right flank to the enemy's respective left flank. When First Lieutenant Bridges saw that the attack was losing momentum, without hesitation or regard for his own life, he immediately volunteered to take a small group of men on an extremely hazardous two-fold mission. First, he led the small group across a river which meant wading through mud and water up to his chest to extract a wounded man, sniper fire intensifying as he went. Secondly, having picked up the wounded man, First Lieutenant Bridges directed his small group in an attack to hit yet another side of the enemy position. Moving from each of his group's positions, First Lieutenant Bridges, ignoring the increasingly heavy enemy fire which was flying around him, gave encouragement and direction to each of his men calmly and fearlessly. His determination and courage during the operation were instrumental in his company's completion of the mission. First Lieutenant Bridges' disregard for his own safety and calm determination in the face of a larger enemy force 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 of the United States under the provisions of Executive Order 11046.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:

W. P. TALLON, JR
Colonel, GS
Chief of Staff



LTC, AGC
Adjutant General

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