

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

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 8552

10 July 1969

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL WITH "V" DEVICE

TO 320. The following AWARD is announced.

COLNA, JOHN J SPECIALIST FOUR Company C 2nd Battalion (Airborne)
501st Infantry APO San Francisco 96383

Awarded: The Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device

Effective month: ..A

Date action: 10 April 1969

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 10 April 1969. Specialist Colna distinguished himself while serving as a medical aidman in the Third Platoon of Company C, 2nd Battalion, 501st Infantry, on a combat operation in the A Shau Valley, Republic of Vietnam. The Third Platoon had just reached the crest of a hill when it came under heavy automatic weapons, small arms, and rocket propelled grenade fire from an estimated platoon of North Vietnamese Army soldiers. In the first moments of contact, many men of the lead element were wounded and required immediate first aid. With the element still receiving a heavy volume of enemy fire, and with utter disregard for his own safety, Specialist Colna ran from his rear position to his wounded comrades. Completely ignoring the heavy volume of enemy fire he was attracting, he continued to administer emergency first aid to the fallen men. He moved coolly from man to man encouraging them and giving aid, and he remained in his position until the enemy resistance was overcome and he could personally assist in the evacuation of the soldiers. Specialist Colna'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 direction of the President of the United States under the provisions of Executive Order 11046.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:

M. H. MURLEY
Colonel, GS
Chief of Staff

for M. H. Marsh MAJ AGC

DALE H. HAYES
LTC, AGC
Adjutant General

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