

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

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 9055

19 July 1969

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL WITH "V" DEVICE (FIRST OAK LEAF CLUSTER) (POSTHUMOUS)

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

BEASLEY, ODELL D PRIVATE FIRST CLASS Company E 2d Battalion (Airborne) 501st  
Infantry APO San Francisco 96383

Awarded: The Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device (First Oak Leaf Cluster) (Posthumous)

Effective month: NA

Date action: 13 May 1969

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 13 May 1969. Private Beasley distinguished himself while serving as an ammunition bearer in Company E, 2d Battalion, 501st Infantry, during combat operations at Fire Support Base Airborne, in the A Shau Valley, Republic of Vietnam. At approximately 0330 hours on the cited date, the fire base was attacked by an estimated battalion of North Vietnamese Army soldiers. The enemy force assaulted the fire base from two sides, with infantrymen and sappers rushing the perimeter under a heavy mortar attack. At the beginning of the battle, Private Beasley immediately assumed his duties as an ammunition bearer for his mortar position. Despite enemy automatic weapons fire and shrapnel from enemy mortar rounds, he completed several trips through the early morning darkness to an ammunition storage point securing illumination rounds. During the engagement, an ammunition bearer in an adjacent mortar position was wounded and unable to continue supplying the needed ammunition. Private Beasley realized the seriousness of the situation and doubled his trips to the ammunition point, supplying illumination rounds for the shorthanded mortar position as well as his own. In the process of securing another load, Private Beasley was mortally wounded when an enemy satchel charge exploded near him. Private Beasley'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:

  
DALE H. HAYES  
LTC, AGC  
Adjutant General

M. H. MURLEY  
Colonel, GS  
Chief of Staff

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