

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

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 8550

10 July 1969

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL WITH "V" DEVICE

1. TC 32C. The following AWARD is announced.

FALAZZOLO, JOSEPH A SERGEANT Company E 2d Battalion (Airborne) 501st Infantry
APO San Francisco 96383

Awarded: The Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device

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. Sergeant Falazzolo distinguished himself while serving as a radar team leader in Company E, 2d Battalion, 501st Infantry, during combat operations in the A Shau Valley, Republic of Vietnam. At approximately 0330 hours on the cited date, Fire Support Base Airborne was attacked by an estimated North Vietnamese Army battalion. The enemy force consisted of an infantry element, mortar section, and sapper squads. Sergeant Falazzolo and his radar team were thrown from their bunker by an explosion which destroyed the radar bunker. Only after his own men had been taken care of did he allow himself to be treated for his wounds. Even though hampered by fragmentation wounds, he returned to the bunker line where he personally silenced an enemy soldier with his own weapon. He refused to give up fighting until the attack terminated. Sergeant Falazzolo'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 11045.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:

M. H. MURLEY
Colonel, GS
Chief of Staff

For: RL Marsh MAJ AGC

DALE H. HAYES
LTC, AGC
Adjutant General

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