

HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY VIETNAM
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96307

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 3398

4 SEPTEMBER 1969

AWARD OF THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS

1. The following AWARD is announced.

MAYOR, ROBERT G. CAPTAIN INFANTRY United States Army
Co A, 2d Battalion, 501st Infantry, 2d Brigade, 101st Abn Div, APO
96347

Awarded: Distinguished Service Cross

Date action: 19 through 25 October 1968

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed force in the Republic of Vietnam, while serving with Company A, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 501st Infantry Regiment, 2d Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. Captain Mayor distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous action during the period from 19 October through 25 October 1968 while leading a reconnaissance-in-force operation in the enemy infiltrated mountains near DaNang. Late in the afternoon of 19 October, Captain Mayor detected movement on a nearby ridge and quickly positioned his company in an ambush formation. When the North Vietnamese force entered the killing zone, he initiated an attack with Claymore mines and grenades. After the successful skirmish, the unit continued to seek out the enemy. During the morning hours of 25 October, the company's night position was hit by a hostile force that penetrated the defensive line and swarmed toward the command post. Captain Mayor immediately ordered his men to fire into the center of camp, even though the members of the command post had only scant protection. After the perimeter troops had unleashed a barrage on the invaders, the command post engaged the fleeing enemy soldiers at close range. Captain Mayor shot one hostile soldier and used his empty rifle to bludgeon another to death. The remnant North Vietnamese force fled into the jungle. Later in the day as communist mortar rounds began to pound the hill, Captain Mayor decided to break camp and capture a nearby hill held by a well-entrenched enemy force. He located the site of the hostile mortar emplacement and called in artillery strikes on the North Vietnamese entrenchments. When the enemy soldiers were forced out of their bunkers by the devastating barrage, he led an assault up the hill-side. Suddenly his men were pinned down by strafing machine gun fire. Running and crawling forward through the fusillade, Captain Mayor neared the machine gun emplacement which he destroyed with a well-thrown grenade. Shortly afterward, his men successfully routed the enemy

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force and secured the hill. Captain Mayor's extraordinary heroism 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, under the provision of the Act of Congress, approved 25 July 1963, and Department of the Army message 782774, dated 19 September 1966.