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HEADQUATERS
UNITED STATES ARMY VIETNAM
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96307

GENERAL ORDERS 28 February 1968
NUMBER 911

AWARD OF THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS

1. The following AWARD is announced.

KENT, ALAN SPECIALIST FOURTH CLASS E-4 United States Army
Co B, 2d Battalion (Abn), 502d Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st Abn Div, APO 96347

Awarded: Distinguished Service Cross
Date action: 18 May 1967
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 B, 2d Battalion, 502d Infantry (Airborne), 101st Airborne Division. Specialist Four Kent distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous action on 18 May 1967 while serving with an airborne infantry platoon on combat mission near Duc Pho. His unit was moving to reinforce a heavily-engaged sister platoon when it was fiercely attacked and pinned down by an enemy force firing automatic weapons. Specialist Kent was painfully wounded in the initial barrage, but he refused aid and dashed through a sheet of enemy fire to reach a fallen comrade and carry him to safety. As his platoon attempted to maneuver against the enemy positions, the intensity of the fusillade increased, inflicted several casualties to the friendly forces and caused the unit to pull back. Specialist Kent saw one of the new casualties trapped in the open and moved across the bullet-swept battlefield to aid him. Finding the man dead, he charged into the face of withering fire and destroyed and enemy bunker with deadly rifle fire and grenades. Automatic weapons fire from another position began raking his location, and he assaulted the second emplacement. After being knocked to the ground and wounded by an enemy grenade, he staggered to his feet, continued his charge on the bunker and demolished it. He then conducted a one-man frontal assault on a machine gun bunker. As a hail of bullets cut down brush and kicked up dirt all around him, he fearlessly pressed the attack and silenced the weapons with a hand grenade. He aggressive charge and devastating fire forced the determined enemy to break contact and flee the battlefield. Specialist Four Kent’s extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

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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.