

HEADQUARTERS
AMERICAL DIVISION
APO San Francisco 96374

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 1353

23 November 1967

AWARD OF THE SOLDIERS MEDAL

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

COOK, CLARK PLATOON SERGEANT E7, United States Army, Company B, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division APO 96347

Awarded: Soldiers Medal

Date action: 1 August 1967

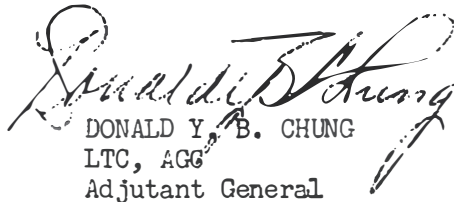
Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For heroism not involving actual conflict with an armed enemy on 1 August 1967 near Duc Pho, Republic of Vietnam. As his company was preparing to go on an operation, one of Platoon Sergeant Cook's men accidentally ignited a parachute hand flare while packing his rucksack. The rucksack containing two hand grenades ignited. Sergeant Cook and another Non Commissioned Officer made a grappling hook to pull the rucksack away from other rucksacks near it, for they, too, contained high explosives. While the other Non-Commissioned Officer held the rope, Sergeant Cook attached the hook. The burning rucksack was removed from the area and, while it was still burning, Sergeant Cook started to stamp out the fire. The grenades exploded, wounding Sergeant Cook and the other man. Through his courage, and complete disregard for his own personal safety, Sergeant Cook saved the lives of many men, for the rucksack next to the flaming one contained forty rounds of high explosive M-79 fragmentation ammunition. Platoon Sergeant Cook's outstanding display of heroism and his devotion to duty in the face of great personal danger are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President under the provisions of the Act of Congress, approved 2 July 1926.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:


DONALD Y. B. CHUNG
LTC, AGG
Adjutant General

ROBERT H. MUSSER
Colonel, GS
Chief of Staff