

HEADQUARTERS
AMERICAL DIVISION
APO San Francisco 96374

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 1414

27 November 1967

AWARD OF THE SOLDIERS MEDAL

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

RISTINE, GARY L. SPECIALIST FOUR E4, United States Army,
Company A, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st
Airborne Division APO 96347

Awarded: Soldiers Medal

Date action: 13 July 1967


Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For heroism not involving actual conflict with an armed enemy on 13 July 1967 near Duc Pho, Republic of Vietnam. While on a search and destroy mission the lead element of Specialist Four Ristine's platoon approached a river. The pointman quickly checked the depth of the river and determined it was shallow enough to cross but, very swift. The pointman proceeded across the river and after having moved approximately half-way across, he stepped off a drop-off. Specialist Ristine, upon hearing his comrade's call for help, rushed to the river and quickly removed his equipment and plunged into the turbulent water. Reaching the spot where the man sank, Specialist Ristine began diving in search of his stricken comrade. On his third dive, Specialist Ristine located the man and immediately pulled him to the surface and swam to shore. Specialist Ristine then began to administer mouth to mouth resuscitation until the man revived. Specialist Four Ristine's outstanding display of heroism and unselfish concern for his fellow soldier 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:


JOHN H. BATTS
MAJ, AGC
Acting Adjutant General

ROBERT H. MUSSER
Colonel, GS
Chief of Staff