

HEADQUARTERS
AMERICAL DIVISION
APO San Francisco 96374

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 1357

23 November 1967

AWARD OF THE SOLDIERS MEDAL

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

TEMPLE, JAMES H. JR. , STAFF SERGEANT E6, 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 Staff Sergeant Temple's squad members accidentally ignited a parachute hand flare while packing his rucksack. The rucksack, containing two fragmentation grenades, ignited. Sergeant Temple immediately grasped the seriousness of the situation and made a grappling hook with rope to pull the burning rucksack away from numerous other rucksacks which contained ammunition and highly explosive fragmentation grenades. With the assistance of the platoon sergeant, Sergeant Temple pulled the burning rucksack to an isolated area. As he attempted to put out the fire a grenade exploded and injured him. By his quick thinking and heroic actions, Sergeant Temple saved numerous lives of men in the company, for the rucksack next to the flaming one contained 40 rounds of high explosive M-79 fragmentation ammunition. Staff Sergeant Temple's heroic and quick actions 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:

ROBERT H. MUSSER
Colonel, GS
Chief of Staff

Donald Y. B. Chung, Maj, AGC
DONALD Y. B. CHUNG
LTC, AGC
Adjutant General