

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY VIETNAM  
APO San Francisco 96307

ORDERS  
NUMBER 4039

21 June 1966

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR  
(POSTHUMOUS)

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

STERITI, STEPHEN J. PRIVATE FIRST CLASS E3 United States Army  
Co A, 2d Bn (Abn), 502d Inf, 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div, APO 96347

Awarded: Silver Star (Posthumously)

Date Action: 8 May 1966

Theater: Republic of Vietnam.

Reason: For gallantry in action: Private First Class Steriti distinguished himself on 8 May 1966 while serving as point man during a search and destroy mission along a narrow jungle trail near the Cambodian border in the Republic of Vietnam. With keen alertness, Private First Class Steriti detected a Viet Cong ambush consisting of at least two machine guns and several individual positions. Private First Class Steriti aggressively assaulted the first Viet Cong machine gun, firing from his hip, killing one insurgent and forcing the other crew members to flee. While charging the second machine gun, he was critically wounded. Although bleeding profusely, Private First Class Steriti crawled toward the insurgent position firing his weapon until he died. His valiant actions disrupted the Viet Cong ambush and prevented numerous casualties. Private First Class Steriti's devotion to duty and extraordinary heroism against a numerically superior hostile force 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 provisions of the Act of Congress, approved 7 July 1918.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:  
*L. F. Hargis*  
L. F. HARGIS  
Colonel, AGC  
Adjutant General

C. M. MOUNT, JR.  
Brigadier General, US Army  
Acting Chief of Staff