

HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY VIETNAM
APO San Francisco 96307

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 5862

30 September 1966

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

1. TC 326. The following AWARD is announced.

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

Awarded: Silver Star

Date action: 15 August 1966

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For gallantry in action: Private First Class Leathers distinguished himself on 15 August 1966 during a search and destroy mission near Tuy Hoa, Republic of Vietnam. As his unit was maneuvering through the dense jungle terrain, it suddenly received intense Viet Cong fire from a cave. During the initial engagement, two soldiers were mortally wounded. When he attempted to pull the casualties to cover, the Viet Cong began to deliver fire directly at him. Nevertheless, he continued until he was wounded by Viet Cong grenade fragments. Although he was wounded and in great pain, Private First Class Leathers, with complete disregard for his safety, jumped to his feet, charged the insurgent position, and killed one Viet Cong. He then approached the cave and pointed his weapon through an aperture and fired. As a result, he killed two more Viet Cong and silenced the insurgent emplacement. Through his courage, he contributed immeasurably to the success of the mission. Private First Class Leathers' extraordinary heroism in close combat against a hostile force was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects 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 9 July 1918.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



S. A. MackENZIE
Colonel, AGC
Adjutant General

RICHARD J. SEITZ
Brigadier General, US Army
Chief of Staff