

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

GENERAL ORDERS
 NUMBER 5002

26 July 1966

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

BEAR, DONALD E. SERGEANT E5 United States Army
 Co A, 2d Bn (Abn), 502d Inf, 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div, APO 96347

Awarded: Silver Star

Date action: 8 May 1966

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For gallantry in action: Sergeant Bear distinguished himself on 8 May 1966 during a search and destroy mission near Bu Gia Map, Republic of Vietnam. While enroute to join the rest of the company, Sergeant Bear's platoon received intense hostile fire from a well-fortified Viet Cong force. After observing his platoon leader in a precarious position struggling to free himself from some tangled vines while directly in the line of hostile fire, Sergeant Bear charged and silenced a Viet Cong position. Although he was exposed to the Viet Cong fire, Sergeant Bear succeeded in reaching his platoon leader. Later while pursuing the withdrawing Viet Cong, his platoon ran into a second Viet Cong position. Acting as point man, Sergeant Bear began to reconnoiter the area by fire and forced the hidden insurgents to fire prematurely. Although wounded, Sergeant Bear continued to fire on the Viet Cong positions which were only 50 meters away. As a result, he prevented an ambush. Sergeant Bear's 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