



HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY VIETNAM
APO San Francisco 96307

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 1906

28 March 1966

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR
(POSTHUMOUS)

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

YOUNGBEAR, RICHARD C. SERGEANT E5 United States Army
Co A, 2d Bn (Abn), 502d Inf, 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div, APO US Forces 96347
Awarded: Silver Star (Posthumously)
Date action: 3 February 1966
Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For gallantry in action; Sergeant Youngbear distinguished himself on 3 February 1966 while serving as fire team leader of a reconnaissance patrol in the vicinity of Tuy Hoa, Republic of Vietnam. At approximately 0330 hours, while on guard on the patrol's perimeter, Sergeant Youngbear detected a hostile patrol that had approached to within ten meters of his position under concealment of darkness. Sergeant Youngbear, realizing that he had no time to alert the whole patrol, immediately engaged the insurgents with a deadly volume of automatic weapons fire. Although wounded in both legs by the Viet Cong fire, he courageously engaged the insurgents. As two of his men were coming to help him, he shouted for them to pull back and take cover. Although hit several more times, Sergeant Youngbear continued firing, forcing the now disorganized Viet Cong to concentrate their fire on him. This enabled the rest of the small patrol to get in better firing positions to repel the hostile assault. Inspired by Sergeant Youngbear's fighting spirit against seemingly insurmountable odds, the patrol was able to repulse the attack. After the fierce fight, the patrol found Sergeant Youngbear mortally wounded with six dead Viet Cong around him. Had it not been for his devotion to duty, courage, and willingness to sacrifice his life, the entire patrol might have been taken by surprise and overrun. Sergeant Youngbear's actions 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 9 July 1918.