



HEADQUARTERS  
UNITED STATES ARMY VIETNAM  
APO San Francisco 96307

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 5781

22 September 1966

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

BEAN, ROBERT E. SPECIALIST FOUR E4 United States Army  
Co B, 2d Br (Abn), 502d Inf, 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div, APO 96347

Awarded: Silver Star

Date action: 1 March 1966

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For gallantry in action: Specialist Four Bean distinguished himself on 1 March 1966 while serving as point man for a squad size patrol during a search and destroy mission near Tuy Hoa, Republic of Vietnam. While his squad was moving through the dense jungle terrain, the patrol leader stopped his squad to make a map orientation. Since he was the forward security, Specialist Four Bean had already taken cover in the dense foliage. As he lay observing to his front, he spotted fifteen Viet Cong advancing in his direction. Realizing that the Viet Cong would be upon them before he could return to warn his comrades, Specialist Four Bean, with complete disregard for his safety, single-handedly attacked the insurgents. Although he was outnumbered, he caught the Viet Cong by surprise. Charging forward, he killed two and wounded four. After the initial burst of fire, the Viet Cong split into two groups. Later, Specialist Four Bean ran across approximately 100 meters of open terrain and attacked six Viet Cong, killing one and wounding four more. When his squad reached the area, it deployed into an assault line and began delivering suppressive fire onto the insurgent force. Determining that they were outnumbered, the Viet Cong broke contact and fled. Through his courage and determination, Specialist Four Bean contributed immeasurably to the defeat of the Viet Cong force. His 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