

HEADQUARTERS
I FIELD FORCE VIETNAM
APO San Francisco 96350

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 140

10 February 1967

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR (FIRST OAK LEAF CLUSTER)

I. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

BLODGETT, DAVID S FIRST LIEUTENANT INFANTRY United States Army
Company C, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry, APO San Francisco 96347.

Awarded: Silver Star (First Oak Leaf Cluster)

Date action: 6 November 1966 to 9 November 1966

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: Gallantry in action: First Lieutenant Blodgett distinguished himself against an armed hostile enemy on 6 November 1966 to 9 November 1966, near Tuy Hoa, Republic of Vietnam. When the Third Platoon of his company was brought under fire, Lieutenant Blodgett was given the mission of taking his platoon to reinforce the engaged platoon. Lieutenant Blodgett was aggressively pursuing the withdrawing enemy when his platoon was suddenly brought under a heavy volume of enemy fire from several enemy positions. Lieutenant Blodgett personally led the maneuver element in an attempt to outflank the enemy position, thus exposing himself to intense enemy fire on numerous occasions while directing fire. Lieutenant Blodgett continued to lead his platoon and aggressively pursued the enemy by maintaining close contact with the delaying forces. As darkness moved in, Lieutenant Blodgett placed his platoon into an ambush position until the following morning. When daylight hours arrived, Lieutenant Blodgett moved his platoon down a jungle trail approximately three hundred meters when they were again brought under intense enemy fire. When the platoon maneuvered in an attempt to outflank the enemy positions, one of the men stepped on a mine and was seriously wounded. With total disregard for his own safety, Lieutenant Blodgett dashed across the minefield to his wounded comrade and personally began to administer the needed medical aid until a medic could arrive. Lieutenant Blodgett then conducted a personal search of the minefield and located several more mines which he destroyed. As Lieutenant Blodgett began to reorganize his platoon, he received word from his company commander to move to a new position. Realizing that his platoon was exhausted, Lieutenant Blodgett set a positive example by personally taking the point man position and leading his men to the new position. His unflinching courage and dauntless leadership ability brings great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President under the provisions of USARV
Message 16695, 1 July 1966 and paragraph 27, AR 672-5-1.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:

LINTON S. BOATWRIGHT
Colonel, GS
Chief of Staff

William H. James
WILLIAM H. JAMES
Colonel, AGC
Adjutant General

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