



HEADQUARTERS  
UNITED STATES ARMY VIETNAM  
APO US Forces 96307

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 2996

20 May 1966

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

1. TO J20. The following AWARD is announced.

SEITZ, JAMES E. FIRST LIEUTENANT INFANTRY United States Army  
Co C, 2d Bn (Abn), 502d Inf, 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div, APO US Forces 96347

Awarded: Silver Star

Date action: 7 February 1966

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For gallantry in action: First Lieutenant Seitz distinguished himself on 7 February 1966 while serving as platoon leader during a combat assault on the village of My Canh, Republic of Vietnam. As his platoon neared the village, it received intense hostile fire from a well-fortified bunker. Unhesitatingly, First Lieutenant Seitz deployed his platoon and directed a maneuver element to flank the hostile bunker. As the squad moved across an open area towards the village, they became pinned down by hostile fire. When a fire team leader was seriously wounded and exposed to the intense Viet Cong fire, several unsuccessful attempts were made to recover the wounded soldier. First Lieutenant Seitz, with complete disregard for his safety, while receiving hostile fire, crawled to the wounded soldier. Although he was seriously wounded while performing this heroic act, First Lieutenant Seitz secured a rope to the wounded man's body and began moving the casualty to safety. As he progressed, a hostile bullet severed the rope and because of the intensity of the Viet Cong fire, First Lieutenant Seitz was forced to abandon his rescue effort. He then withdrew his men and called in artillery fire. As he covered his unit's withdrawal, he was again wounded by hostile fire. First Lieutenant Seitz's unimpeachable valor in the face of a numerically superior Viet Cong 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:

OFFICIAL:

L. T. MARCIS  
Colonel, AGC  
Adjutant General

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