



HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY VIETNAM
APO US Forces 96307

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 2962

18 May 1966

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

TACUBAN, ELMO A. SERGEANT E5 United States Army
Co C, 2d Bn, 502d Inf, 1st Bde, 131st Abn Div, APO US Forces 96347

Awarded: Silver Star

Date action: 20 March 1966

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For gallantry in action: Sergeant Tacuban distinguished himself on 20 March 1966 while serving as a squad leader near My Dien, Republic of Vietnam. After one squad on a reconnaissance mission became engaged in a vicious battle and sustained several casualties, Sergeant Tacuban led the remainder of the platoon through the dense jungle to relieve the beleaguered squad. As the relief force approached the battle area, they encountered a heavy volume of fire from well-entrenched Viet Cong positions. Realizing that the casualties who were in the fire swept field to his front were in need of immediate medical attention, Sergeant Tacuban initiated fire and movement maneuvers in a determined effort to reach the casualties. With complete disregard for his safety while exposed to the intense hostile fire, he led his men across the open field. After reaching the casualties, Sergeant Tacuban administered life-saving medical treatment and supervised the evacuation of the wounded while receiving weapons and grenade fire. Through his courage and outstanding leadership, he contributed immeasurably to the relief of the beleaguered squad and saved the lives of the wounded casualties. Sergeant Tacuban's extraordinary heroism in close combat against a numerically superior 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:

OFFICIAL:

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

L. T. HARGIS
Colonel, AGC
Adjutant General