

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NWD 968/27
 By NARA Date 5/19/07

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
 COMMANDERS TASK FORCE OREGON (PROVISIONAL)
 DPO Ser. Francisco 96374

GENERAL OFFICERS
 NM CDR 517

22 August 1967

SOLDIER OF THE SILVER STAR

1. TC 520. The following MARD is announced.

THROCKMORTON, BENJAMIN R., FIRST LIEUTENANT, INFANTRY, United States Army, Company B, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 503d Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, AF 96367

Awarded: Silver Star

Date citation: 18 May 1967

Issuer: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For gallantry in action against a hostile force on 18 May 1967 in the Republic of Vietnam. Lieutenant Throckmorton distinguished himself by exceptionally heroic action while on a search and destroy mission near Duc Phu. He was directed to move his platoon into an area where another platoon was heavily engaged with an enemy element and needed assistance. Quickly moving his platoon through the enemy infested jungle, Lieutenant Throckmorton reached the platoon and began to maneuver against the enemy element. As the platoon moved forward they were suddenly assaulted with a tremendous volume of enemy automatic weapons fire. With complete disregard for his own personal safety, Lieutenant Throckmorton crawled through the vicious enemy fire to within five meters of two enemy machinegun positions so as to place effective fire into them. One of the enemy soldiers detected him and wounded him with a grenade. Disregarding his wounds and refusing medical aid, Lieutenant Throckmorton aggressively placed suppressive volumes of fire into one bunker killing an enemy soldier and enabling his men to destroy the two bunkers. Lieutenant Throckmorton then jumped to his feet and moved through the battle area and purposely exposed himself in order to draw the enemy fire, thus allowing his men to successfully destroy the remaining enemy positions. Lieutenant Throckmorton then moved through the area aiding the wounded and giving encouragement. Only after the last wounded man had been evacuated did Lieutenant Throckmorton allow himself to be given medical attention. As a result of Lieutenant Throckmorton's undaunted courage and decisive actions, four enemy soldiers were killed, several more wounded, three enemy bunkers destroyed and three weapons captured. Lieutenant Throckmorton's outstanding display of unquestionable valor, resolute determination and devotion to duty in close combat are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, Task Force Oregon, and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President under the provisions of the Act of Congress, approved 9 July 1918.