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 Author: ANN 968/137
 By: KARA Date: 5/09/07

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
 HEADQUARTERS, TASK FORCE OREGON (TRANSITIONAL)
 APO San Francisco 96374

COMM: 10 0000
 REF: 2 310

23 August 1967

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

1. TO 320. The following AWARD is announced.

BOOTH, EDWARD V., SECOND LIEUTENANT, INFANTRY, United States Army, PO #242 2, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division APO 96347

Awarded: Silver Star
 Date Action: 18 May 1967
 Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For gallantry in action. Second Lieutenant Booth distinguished himself by exceptionally heroic action, personal bravery and leadership while conducting operations against an armed hostile force on 18 May 1967 near Duc Tho, Republic of Vietnam. While conducting a search and destroy mission, Lieutenant Booth was given the mission of moving to a landing zone and securing it. Working in conjunction with a Civilian Irregular Defense Group Platoon, Lieutenant Booth split up his platoon and sent half of his element with half of the other platoon to the landing zone, the element ran into an estimated Viet Cong company which completely surrounded the element and inflicted numerous casualties with murderous automatic weapons fire. Receiving their call for assistance, Lieutenant Booth immediately set out to relieve and reinforce the beleaguered element, upon arriving at the location of the ensuing battle, quickly maneuvered his element against the enemy's flank. The size of the hostile force was much greater than estimated and they pinned down his small force under intense volume of automatic weapons fire. Realizing the precariousness of the immediate situation, Lieutenant Booth, with complete disregard for his own personal safety, exposed himself to the vicious hostile fire and led an assault on the strong, entrenched enemy positions. The advance was halted by intense fire and he was wounded by grenade fragments. Disregarding his wounds and undaunted by the intensity of the enemy fire, Lieutenant Booth led two more assaults through the increasing hostile fire in a vain attempt to overrun the enemy positions. Unable to advance or destroy the enemy, he reorganized his element so that the enemy could not flank him. He then courageously held his ground until another platoon arrived. In the renewed battle which followed, Lieutenant Booth successfully led an aggressive assault on the enemy positions which resulted in several enemy killed and several weapons captured. Lieutenant Booth's outstanding display of unquestionable valor, intense dedication, fortitude, and devotion to duty in close combat against numerically superior hostile forces are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect the greatest credit upon himself, his unit, Task Force Oregon, and the United States Army.