

HEADQUARTERS
I FIELD FORCE VIETNAM
APO San Francisco 96350

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 69

24 January 1967

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR
(POSTHUMOUSLY)

1. TC 326. The following AWARD is announced.

EARLE, LARRY D FIRST LIEUTENANT IRRANTEY United States Army Com-
pany C, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry, APO San Francisco 96347.

Awarded: Silver Star (Posthumously)

Date action: 2 January 1967

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: Gallantry in action: First Lieutenant Earle had placed his platoon into a defensive perimeter. Approximately three hours later, a numerically superior determined enemy element viciously attacked the defensive perimeter with such ferocity that six of Lieutenant Earle's men were instantly killed. Realizing the possibilities of being overrun by the enemy, Lieutenant Earle, with complete disregard for his own personal safety, charged forward to the area where the action was heaviest and began to reorganize his platoon. Being constantly exposed to murderous enemy automatic weapons fire and a heavy barrage of enemy hand grenades, Lieutenant Earle moved from position to position giving his men encouragement and pointing out enemy targets. On several occasions while rallying his men, hand grenades landed near him and his men and again Lieutenant Earle braved the murderous enemy fire and personally picked up the enemy grenades and threw them back at the enemy. Having reorganized his platoon, Lieutenant Earle gave the order to assault the fanatical enemy element. His inspired men assaulted the superior enemy force with such determination that the enemy ranks were broken and they were forced to make a hasty withdrawal. Had it not been for Lieutenant Earle's tremendous display of courage and professionalism in the face of a numerically superior enemy force many more casualties would have resulted. Lieutenant Earle's outstanding display of gallantry in action and his avid devotion to duty are within the highest military traditions and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

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

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:

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