

DECLASSIFIED

Authority *AWO 968137*
By *[Signature]* NARA Date *5/29/07*DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS TASK FORCE OREGON (PROVISIONAL)
APO San Francisco 96374GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 50

26 June 1967

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced posthumously.

CHITWOOD, ROY D. , STAFF SERGEANT E6, United States Army,
Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d
Infantry, APO 96347

Awarded: Silver Star

Date action: 18 May 1967

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For gallantry in action: Staff Sergeant Chitwood distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry in action on 18 May 1967 near Duc Pho, Republic of Vietnam. The Reconno Platoon of the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry while conducting a combat operation, had established an ambush position along a jungle trail. During the early morning hours the friendly element was suddenly attacked by an enemy element using automatic weapons and hand grenades. When the attack started Sergeant Chitwood realized that his section was taking the main force of the attack and immediately, with complete disregard for his own personal safety, rushed forward to his sector of the perimeter and began to pull the positions in closer so that his sector would not be overrun. The enemy element, after being beaten back, attacked the friendly perimeter again. Sergeant Chitwood continued to expose himself to the withering enemy fire as he moved from position to position giving his men encouragement and directing effective fire into the ranks of the enemy. As Sergeant Chitwood again exposed himself to the vicious enemy fire while bringing an ammunition resupply to some of his men, he was wounded by a burst of enemy automatic weapons fire. Disregarding his wounds and refusing medical aid, Sergeant Chitwood continued to resupply his men with ammunition and give them encouragement until he was again struck by an enemy bullet and mortally wounded. Sergeant Chitwood's outstanding display of gallantry in action and his devotion to duty even at the cost of his life are in keeping with the finest traditions of the military service and reflect 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.