

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
Headquarters 101st Air Supply Division  
APO San Francisco 96343

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 1390

3 August 1968

SECTION I

THE SILVER STAR MEDAL

1. TC 320. The following AWARDS are announced.

BRANDER, FREDERICK C (SSAN: ) FIRST SERGEANT (E-8)  
Company A 2d Battalion 501st Infantry APO San Francisco 96343

Awarded: The Silver Star Medal

Date action: 19 February 1968

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 19 February, 1968. First Sergeant Brander distinguished himself while serving with Company A, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 501st Infantry. Company A was on combat operations near the village of Thon Thuang, Republic of Vietnam. First Sergeant Brander was with the point platoon on the sweep, when two men in khaki uniforms were spotted running into a hut, and the platoon moved on line and began to take them under fire. The platoon advanced approximately twenty meters when a tremendous volume of automatic weapons and machine gun fire from a hedgerow fifty meters to the front halted the advance. The volume of fire was so heavy that it was practically impossible to maneuver. One man was killed with the initial burst of fire, and in order to give cover to a medic that rushed to his aid, First Sergeant Brander exposed himself to the brutal fire. Moving first from the right flank to the left flank, First Sergeant Brander, continuing to give covering fire for the medic, placed a heavy volume of fire on the enemy, constantly braving the enemy fire to give encouragement to his men and direct their fire and movement. Moving out in front of the slowly advancing line of men, First Sergeant Brander threw smoke grenades in order to cover his movements and to permit a faster advance on the enemy positions. Still moving back and forth along the line of advance, First Sergeant Brander was helping to evacuate the wounded and men killed in the action when he was wounded by a burst of machine gun fire. His extraordinary courage and physical stamina were an inspiration to all those in the unit. First Sergeant Brander's exceptional valor at the risk of his own life and dedication to his men is 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 of the United States under the provisions of the Act of Congress established 9 July 1918.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:

W. P. TALLON  
Colonel, GS  
Chief of Staff

  
M. K. LEBAR  
LTC, AGC  
Adjutant General

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