

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
Headquarters 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile)  
APO San Francisco 96383

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 12423

25 September 1969

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR (FIRST OAK LEAF CLUSTER)

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

PHILLIPS, RONALD E . . . . . FIRST LIEUTENANT INFANTRY Company D 2d Battalion (Airmobile)  
501st Infantry APO San Francisco 96383

Awarded: The Silver Star (First Oak Leaf Cluster)

Effective month: NA

Date action: 15 April 1968

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 15 April 1968. Lieutenant Phillips distinguished himself while serving as a platoon leader in Company D, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, on a search and clear operation twenty-five kilometers northwest of Hue, Republic of Vietnam. Lieutenant Phillips' platoon received intense enemy small arms fire and automatic weapons fire from concealed enemy positions in a nearby woodline. Three of the lead men were wounded in the initial contact, and because of their proximity to the enemy lines, several rescue attempts failed. Lieutenant Phillips immediately crawled to the injured troopers. In order to reach them, he was forced to run across an open rice paddy under increased enemy fire. Reaching the first man, he placed himself between his wounded comrade and the enemy fire and immediately administered first aid. He then crawled toward the other men. By this time, several others from his platoon had joined him, and he organized his small element into teams to remove the wounded from their hazardous positions. As the men moved back to the friendly position, a sniper began to fire at them from a tree top. Once again, Lieutenant Phillips risked his life as he maneuvered against the sniper's position and mortally wounded the enemy. He then remained in a rear guard position and prevented the hostile force from advancing on the rescue party by continuously firing his weapon and throwing hand grenades. Returning to his platoon, he made certain that the injured had been properly evacuated, and then maneuvered his platoon against the enemy troops. In the fighting that followed, he personally confronted and captured an armed North Vietnamese soldier. Lieutenant Phillips' personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect 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 approved 25 July 1963.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:



DALE H. HAYES  
LTC, AGC  
Adjutant General

HUGH A. McDONALD  
Colonel, GS  
Chief of Staff

DISTRIBUTION:

- |                |                       |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| D - Plus       | 5 - CO, D/2/501st Inf |
| 13 - AVDC-AG-B | 5 - CO, 2/501st Inf   |
| 5 - AVDC-III   | 5 - CC, 2d Bde        |
| 2 - AVDC-AG-O  |                       |

SPECIAL DISTRIBUTION:

- 1 - TAGC ATTN: AGPF-F