

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

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 4946

19 May 1969

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

SEIFFERT, JESSE E SERGEANT Company A 1st Battalion  
(Airborne) 502d Infantry APO San Francisco 96383

Awarded: The Silver Star  
Effective month: N/A  
Date action: 19 March 1969  
Theater: Republic of Vietnam


Reason: For gallantry in action while engaged in military operations against an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 19 March 1969. Sergeant Seiffert distinguished himself while serving as a platoon sergeant in Company A, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry, on a combat operation near the A Chau Valley, Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. As platoon sergeant of the First Platoon, Sergeant Seiffert was moving his platoon down a narrow mountain ridge when two platoons of North Vietnamese soldiers, entrenched in bunkers overlooking the Third Platoon, opened fire with machine guns, small arms, and rocket propelled grenades. Pinned down and highly vulnerable to the enemy gunners above, the Third Platoon was suffering numerous casualties and in desperate need of relief. With complete disregard for his own safety, he voluntarily made his way under fire to the Third Platoon's location across the narrow ridge. Attempts were being made to evacuate the wounded, but to no avail, as automatic weapons fire from an enemy bunker raked the position. Sergeant Seiffert moved through the direct fire to outflank and then personally assault the bunker without supporting fire. Mortally wounding two North Vietnamese soldiers with hand grenades and rifle fire, his courageous actions allowed the expeditious evacuation of the wounded and turned the tide of the battle against the enemy. Sergeant Seiffert's 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:

L. L. MOWERY  
Colonel, GS  
Chief of Staff

  
DALE H. HAYES  
LTC, AGC  
Adjutant General

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