

Headquarters 1st Infantry Division  
APO San Francisco 96345

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 2808

18 April 1969

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR  
(First Oak Leaf Cluster)

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

CHRISTIAN, DAVID A O5345884 ( ); FIRST LIEUTENANT INFANTRY  
United States Army  
Combat Support Company 1st Battalion 26th Infantry

Awarded: Silver Star (First Oak Leaf Cluster)  
Date of action: 27 October 1968  
Theater: Republic of Vietnam  
Reason: For gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam: On this date, Lieutenant Christian was serving as a platoon leader with his company while leading an eleven man patrol approximately ten miles south of Quan Loi. As the friendly element approached an enemy base camp, they were subjected to an intense barrage of rocket-propelled grenade, small arms, and automatic weapons fire. After quickly analyzing the situation and employing his men at the most advantageous positions, Lieutenant Christian advanced 25 meters alone and armed with just three hand grenades and a bayonet managed to successfully overpower and destroy an enemy machinegun nest. Thus enabling his men to relocate to more secure locations, Lieutenant Christian largely withstood a further heavy assault by the larger North Vietnamese force by firing a light antitank weapon, killing one and wounding several more of the aggressors. When his men again regrouped, Lieutenant Christian remained amid a heavy barrage of small arms fire to cover their movement, completely disregarding his own safety. Finally, he was able to direct supporting artillery and gunship fire to the enemy location, courageously leading and inspiring his men throughout the two hour duration of the conflict. First Lieutenant Christian's unquestionable valor while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an insurgent force is in keeping with the finest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the 1st Infantry Division, and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President, as established by the Act of Congress, 9 July 1918, and USARV Message 16695, dated 1 July 1966.