

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
Headquarters, Americal Division  
APO San Francisco 96374

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 1578

16 February 1970

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

1. TC 439. The following AWARD is announced.

SMITH, HAL, SPECIALIST FOUR  
Troop F, 17th Cavalry, 196th Infantry Brigade APO 96256  
Awarded: Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device  
Date of service: 26 December 1969  
Theater: Republic of Vietnam  
Authority: By direction of the President under the provisions of Executive Order 11046, 24 August 1962.  
Reason: For heroism in connection with ground operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Four Smith distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 26 December 1969 while serving as a medical aidman with Troop F, 17th Cavalry. On that date, the troop was engaged in combat operations when it came under heavy fire from an enemy force of undetermined size. In the initial exchange of fire, a vehicle was hit by a rocket propelled grenade round which caused several casualties. With complete disregard for his personal safety, Specialist Smith ran through the enemy fire, and went to the assistance of his wounded comrades. With the aid of a fellow soldier, Specialist Smith moved the wounded driver of the vehicle from his position, and administered aid to his comrade. Continuing to expose himself to hostile fire, Specialist Smith treated three other wounded soldiers. He remained in a vulnerable position to care for the wounded men until a MEDEVAC aircraft arrived, and they were extracted from the site. Through his timely and courageous actions, Specialist Smith was instrumental in the swift evacuation of his wounded comrades. Specialist Four Smith's personal heroism, professional competence, and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service, and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:



LARRY D. FLOWERS  
CPT, AGC  
Asst AG

T. H. TACKABERRY  
Colonel, GS  
Chief of Staff