

HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY, PACIFIC
APO San Francisco 96558

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 223

12 September 1966

AWARD OF THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced:

MARTIN, ROY D 05307243 CAPTAIN Infantry United States Army

Awarded: Distinguished Service Cross

Date action: 21 and 22 May 1966

Theater: Not applicable

Reason: For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Captain Martin was serving as Commanding Officer of Company B, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 8th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile). On 21 May 1966, his unit was assigned the task of routing an unknown Viet Cong force out of a nearby valley. While moving up, Captain Martin's unit came under intense automatic weapons and sniper fire from a well-dug-in reinforced Viet Cong battalion. As a counter movement, the friendly defenders launched a frontal assault but were beaten back by the insurgents. Realizing the necessity of a break in contact with the hostile forces prior to darkness, Captain Martin withdrew his troops and called for aerial rocket artillery, mortar, and artillery fire support. He then took his headquarters element and the second platoon and moved to within 30 meters of the Viet Cong's line of defense. A machine gun opened fire on the advancing platoon and Captain Martin, with complete disregard for his own personal safety, exposed himself to the intense fire, shot the gunner, and threw a grenade into the emplacement killing the three remaining Viet Cong. Continuing another 25 meters, Captain Martin eliminated two more bunkers which allowed his unit to advance. Still moving up, he exposed himself three more times to kill snipers. Captain Martin's extraordinary heroism and gallantry in action are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army and reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Authority: By direction of the President, under the provisions of
the Act of Congress, approved 25 July 1963, and paragraph
5q, AR 672-5-1.

Special Instructions: This award supersedes the award of the Silver Star to Captain Roy D. Martin, 05307243, for gallantry in action on 21 May 1966, as announced in General Orders Number 5285, Headquarters, United States Army, Vietnam, dated 10 August 1966.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:

OFFICIAL:

EDGAR C. DOLEMAN

Lieutenant General, USA

Chief of Staff

A. L. Ransone

A. L. RANSONE

Colonel, AGC

Adjutant General

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