

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION
APO San Francisco 96345

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 12673

2 December 1968

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

TAYLOR, LARRY L. OF110150 (418-64-9141) FIRST LIEUTENANT ARMOR United States Army
Troop D (Air) 1st Squadron 4th Cavalry

Awarded: Silver Star
Date of action: 18 June 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 Taylor was serving as team leader of a helicopter light fire team deployed in support of a four man reconnaissance patrol which was heavily engaged and completely surrounded by a large Viet Cong force. Upon arriving over the battle area at approximately 2100 hours, Lieutenant Taylor unhesitatingly flew his aircraft at a low altitude with his landing light on, in order to pinpoint the location of the friendly troops. He then began a series of devastating attacks by his fire team against the numerous enemy locations. In spite of intense ground fire, Lieutenant Taylor continued engaging the enemy until he had effectively suppressed one of their flanks, thus providing the patrol with an avenue of movement. Although still receiving enemy fire, he guided the patrol to a proposed extraction site with the aid of his landing light. Learning that another aircraft was not immediately available for the extraction and observing that the Viet Cong were quickly advancing, Lieutenant Taylor instructed the patrol members by radio how to secure themselves to the exterior of his aircraft. With complete disregard for his personal safety, he landed while under fire from the nearby tree line and successfully made the extraction, without a single injury being sustained by American personnel. The selfless courage, competent leadership and quick perception of the situation demonstrated by Lieutenant Taylor were responsible for saving the lives of four American soldiers. First Lieutenant Taylor's unquestionable valor in close combat against numerically superior hostile forces 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.