

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
Headquarters, United States Army Vietnam  
APO San Francisco 96375

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 661

31 March 1972

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

TC 439. The following AWARD is announced.

SPRINKLE, DAVID T. 543-60-3020- SERGEANT United States Army, Company C, 2d  
Battalion, 5th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) APO 96490  
Awarded: Silver Star

Dates of action: 3 January 1972

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Authority: By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of  
Congress, approved 9 July 1918

Reason: For gallantry in action while engaged in military operations against  
an armed enemy force in the Republic of Vietnam: Sergeant Sprinkle  
distinguished himself on 3 January 1972 while serving as a rifleman  
on a combat operation in the Republic of Vietnam. During the late  
afternoon, an estimated company sized element of the North Vietnamese  
Army ambushed the platoon patrol. Throughout the ensuing battle,  
Sergeant Sprinkle directed a suppressive volume of retaliatory fire  
on the enemy positions as he repeatedly exposed himself to the intense  
hostile rocket, machine gun and small arms fire. Realizing that the  
point man and squad leader had been incapacitated with the first volley  
of unfriendly fire and had left a huge gap in the friendly line, Sergeant  
Sprinkle moved through the bullet swept area to fill this gap. Shortly  
after reaching this position, he was seriously wounded when a rocket  
exploded next to his position. Even while receiving aid he continued to  
direct a suppressive volume of retaliatory fire on the enemy positions.  
Sergeant Sprinkle's gallantry in action was in keeping with the highest  
traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon him-  
self, his unit, and the United States Army.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



L. H. SCHWEITER  
MG US ARMY  
Chief of Staff

C. A. STANFIEL  
Colonel, AGC  
Adjutant General