

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY VIETNAM  
APO San Francisco 96375

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 2000

2 May 1968

AWARD OF THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced posthumously.

GRIGSBY, JOE W RA17747706 (SSAN [REDACTED]) PRIVATE FIRST CLASS E3 United States Army, Troop C, 3d Squadron, 4th Cavalry, 25th Infantry Division, APO 96225

Awarded: Distinguished Service Cross

Date action: 6 February 1968

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam: Private First Class Grigsby distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 6 February 1968 as machine gunner of an armored personnel carrier on a reaction mission. An infantry unit had been heavily engaged by a Viet Cong force, and Private Grigsby's troop was called to reinforce the beleaguered soldiers. As his vehicle arrived at the battle site, it received a direct hit by an enemy anti-tank rocket and burst into flames. Private Grigsby was wounded by flying shrapnel from the exploding rocket, but fearlessly remained on the burning personnel carrier and delivered a devastating hail of machine gun fire into hostile positions. As another track drew near to evacuate the casualties, he removed a seriously wounded crew member from his disabled vehicle and administered skillful first aid. He was assisting the casualty into the second personnel carrier when it was also struck by rocket fire. Private Grigsby, with his own body, unhesitatingly shielded his wounded comrade to protect him from the explosion and ravaging enemy small arms fusillade which followed. He was mortally wounded while gallantly and unselfishly placing the welfare of a fellow soldier above his own in the heat of battle. Private First Class Grigsby's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty, at the cost of his life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President under the provisions of the Act of Congress, approved 25 July 1963.