

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

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 3420

7 September 1969

AWARD OF THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS

TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

WAS, FRED JR [REDACTED] SERGEANT United States Army, Troop C, 3d Squadron, 4th Cavalry, 25th Infantry Division, APO 96225

Awarded: Distinguished Service Cross

Date of action: 19 June 1969

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: Sergeant Ogas distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 19 June 1969 during a reconnaissance-in-force mission. When a large well-entrenched enemy force opened fire on his troop, the commander and several other officers were killed or wounded as antitank rockets struck their tracked vehicle. Sergeant Ogas was thrown from his vehicle and wounded. Despite his wounds, he immediately moved to the aid of his injured comrades. As he was evacuating two officers, deadly fire erupted from an enemy bunker nearby. Sergeant Ogas single-handedly stormed the hostile fortification and killed the enemy soldiers with rifle and hand grenade fire. Returning to the wounded officers, he succeeded in evacuating them out of range of direct fire. Realizing that the troop was without command, Sergeant Ogas quickly assumed control of the unit and reorganized the now-scattered men. Establishing communication with the squadron commander who was aloft in the command and control helicopter, Sergeant Ogas assembled the casualties and guided medical evacuation helicopters into the contact area. After moving his men to a selected night position, he accomplished contact with and successfully directed another troop to his location. He retained control of the unit until an officer could be inserted into the area. Sergeant Ogas' extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty 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.