

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HEADQUARTERS, AMERICAL DIVISION  
APO San Francisco 96374

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 3104

30 April 1969

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

RUSSELL, ALBERT L JR 064277 (SSAN 188-16-7667), LIEUTENANT COLONEL, ARMOR,  
Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Americal Division APO 96374

Awarded: Silver Star (1st Oak Leaf Cluster)

Date action: 21 March 1969

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

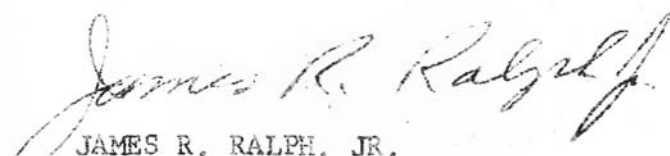
Reason: For gallantry in action against an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Lieutenant Colonel Russell distinguished himself by intrepid actions on 21 March 1969 while serving as liaison officer of the Americal Division. On that date, Colonel Russell was flying from Da Nang to Chu Lai when his helicopter came under intense small arms and automatic weapons fire. Realizing that a crash landing was imminent, Colonel Russell calmed the panicking civilians aboard the craft. Immediately after impact, he moved from person to person to insure that no one was wounded or injured in the crash. With complete disregard for the enemy fire, he then assisted two of the civilian personnel to a position of relative safety and deployed the crew of the downed craft in a defensive perimeter. With this task completed, Colonel Russell again braved the hail of enemy fire to return to the site of the crash and to remove the valuable equipment left aboard the helicopter, thus denying its use to the enemy. His courageous and timely actions undoubtedly saved the lives of the civilian personnel and prohibited the seizure of valuable military equipment. Lieutenant Colonel Russell's personal heroism, professional competence and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

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

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:

JOHN W. DONALDSON  
Colonel, GS  
Chief of Staff

  
JAMES R. RALPH, JR.  
LTC, AGC  
Adjutant General