

**This is to Certify that  
The President of the United States of America  
Takes Pride in Presenting**



**THE  
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS  
to**

**SPENCER W JONAS**

***Citation:* The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Distinguished Service Cross to Spencer W. Jonas, Sergeant First Class, U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam, while serving with Airborne Division Advisory Detachment, Team 162, United States Military Assistance Command, Vietnam. Sergeant First Class Jonas distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions during the period 28 to 31 January 1970 while advising a company of Vietnamese soldiers during combat operations in Tay Ninh Province. While on a search and clear mission, the company made contact with a numerically superior enemy element that forced the allies to assume a defensive position and call for air support. Throughout the first day and night, as the enemy pressure continued, Sergeant Jonas exposed himself to enemy fire to direct and adjust artillery rounds against the onrushing enemy. At times, he directed the supporting fire to within ten meters of his own perimeter. The following day, the sergeant continued to direct numerous air strikes which successfully diverted all attacks. That night, while suffering a critical shortage of ammunition, the company was viciously attacked by the same determined enemy force. Sergeant Jonas remained in an exposed position on his perimeter to operate a strobe light and pinpoint enemy positions for artillery support fire. Although the focal point of enemy fire, he continued this action and again successfully prevented the enemy from overrunning his position.**

**On the third day, after directing a heavy volume of air strikes, the sergeant directed a helicopter ambulance to his position to evacuate the wounded. Ignoring the intense enemy fire that raked the area, he assisted the wounded aboard the aircraft. Sergeant Jonas continued his determined fight until the fourth day when he was relieved by two allied companies. Sergeant First Class Jonas' 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.**

Headquarters, US Army, Vietnam, General Orders No. 4479 (September 21, 1970)