

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY VIETNAM
APO San Francisco 96307

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 5702

15 September 1966

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

1. TO 320. The following AWARD is announced.

SILL, LOUIS F., JR. FIRST LIEUTENANT INFANTRY United States Army
Co B, 2d Bn (Abn), 502d Inf, 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div, APO 96347

Awarded: Silver Star

Date actions: 9 June 1966

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reasons: For gallantry in actions: First Lieutenant Sill distinguished himself on 9 June 1966 while serving as commanding officer during a company search and destroy operation near Dak To, Republic of Vietnam. In an attempt to locate freshly used trails, the company was moving along three principle routes in Viet Cong infested jungle. During the movement, it received intense hostile small arms fire from several camouflaged positions. Upon being informed by a second element that they too were subjected to intense hostile fire, First Lieutenant Sill immediately moved with the remaining elements to their location. He then skillfully directed artillery and air strikes on the Viet Cong emplacements. After moving through the bullet swept area to a good vantage point, First Lieutenant Sill personally maneuvered his remaining platoon to better positions on a hill. During the course of action, the Viet Cong began to increase their fire. At this time, First Lieutenant Sill again called for artillery fire to within distances of less than one hundred meters from his position. He then moved from the maneuver element to the heavily engaged platoon, directed sub-elements to fire and maneuver and assisted in the evacuation of casualties. With complete disregard for his safety, he continued to move about the battlefield directing supporting fire and leading his men in several assaults against the Viet Cong positions. He also directed and supervised the clearing of a landing zone from which his wounded troops could be evacuated. First Lieutenant Sill's calm and exceptionally cool demeanor under hostile fire was an inspiring example to his men and contributed immeasurably to the successful operation which resulted in the death of nine Viet Cong and the capture of six weapons. His extraordinary heroism in close combat against a numerically superior Viet Cong force was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects 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 9 July 1918.