

HEADQUARTERS  
I FIELD FORCE VIETNAM  
APO San Francisco 96350

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 138

8 February 1967

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

1. TO 320. The following AWARD is announced.

SILVASY, STEPHEN JR. CAPTAIN INFANTRY United States Army Company  
C, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry, APO San Francisco 96347.

Awarded: Silver Star

Date action: 9 November 1966 to 11 November 1966

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: Gallantry in action: Captain Silvasy, on 9 November 1966, had placed his lead platoon into a blocking position to block any possible escape route of an encircled North Vietnamese Army element. Captain Silvasy decided to make a reconnaissance of potential positions so that the following platoons could be placed in position immediately upon arrival. Captain Silvasy, along with a small reconnaissance element, had just started to move across an open area when they were suddenly brought under an intense volume of enemy small arms fire. Captain Silvasy calmly continued to take his reconnaissance while under the heavy enemy fire, and as a result, the remaining platoons were able to move directly into position and effectively seal the last remaining gap in the encirclement. As the battle progressed the following day, Captain Silvasy was constantly in the forefront of the heaviest action. With complete disregard for his own personal safety, Captain Silvasy constantly exposed himself to enemy fire while giving his men encouragement and inspiring them as they swept through the battle area. Throughout the battle Captain Silvasy, even though he accompanied the forward element, maintained complete control of his four platoons on line, keeping them in contact and leaving no gaps for the enemy to slip through. On the third day of battle the company command post was situated on a mountain top. To gain better observation and maintain control, Captain Silvasy climbed a tree where he could better observe the battle area. With complete disregard for his own personal safety, Captain Silvasy remained in the tree for several hours exposed to enemy fire. Captain Silvasy's outstanding display of leadership and gallantry in action are within the highest military tradition and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President under the provisions of USARV Message 16695, 1 July 1966 and paragraph 27, AR 672-5-1.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:

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Adjutant General

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