

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

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 472D

18 July 1966

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

1. TO 320. The following AWARD is announced.

HART, JAMES D. FIRST LIEUTENANT INFANTRY United States Army
MHC, 2d Bn (Abn), 502d Inf, 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div, APO 96347

Awarded: Silver Star

Date action: 16 March 1966

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For gallantry in action: First Lieutenant Hart distinguished himself on 16 March 1966 while serving as platoon leader on a combat operation near Tuy Hoa, Republic of Vietnam. As First Lieutenant Hart was leading a patrol deep in a Viet Cong infested area, his unit received intense hostile fire. First Lieutenant Hart immediately moved forward through the intense fire and quickly made an estimate of the situation. Although repeatedly exposed to the Viet Cong fire, First Lieutenant Hart skillfully deployed his men and effectively directed their return fire. As the battle continued, the patrol sustained several casualties. Unhesitatingly, First Lieutenant Hart called for supporting artillery fire. With complete disregard for his safety, First Lieutenant Hart repeatedly exposed himself to the hostile fire as he skillfully adjusted the artillery fire onto the Viet Cong emplacements. He then personally led an assault on the hostile positions. Inspired by their leader, the patrol eagerly and aggressively joined him in the assault. During the course of action, First Lieutenant Hart wounded three Viet Cong and neutralized their emplacement with well placed hand grenades. His courageous efforts enabled the patrol to continue their mission which resulted in the capture of six rifles and one machine gun. First Lieutenant Hart's unimpeachable valor 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.