

HEADQUARTERS  
AMERICAN DIVISION  
APO San Francisco 96374

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 1441

29 November 1967

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

1. TO 320. The following AWARD is announced.

PEAKE, JAMES S. - FIRST LIEUTENANT, INFANTRY, United States Army, Company 4, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division APO 96347

Awarded: Silver Star

Date action: 27 September 1967

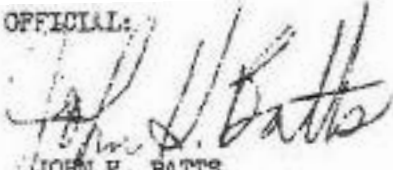
Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For gallantry in action against a hostile force on 27 September 1967 near Chu Lai, Republic of Vietnam. When contact was made with an estimated reinforced enemy platoon in well-fortified positions, First Lieutenant Peka immediately moved to the most forward point of his platoon's position and began to lead his men in an assault on the enemy. A squad became pinned down and Lieutenant Peka quickly organized a maneuvering element and personally led them in an attempt to flank the enemy positions. As Lieutenant Peka led his element forward, he was struck by enemy fire and painfully wounded in the leg. Disregarding his own safety, Lieutenant Peka got to his feet, charged an enemy machinegun position and destroyed it, killing three enemy soldiers and relieving the pressure on the pinned down squad. Refusing to be evacuated until his own casualties had been evacuated, Lieutenant Peka painfully walked approximately six hundred meters to insure the evacuation could be made from a secure landing zone. First Lieutenant Peka's outstanding display of gallantry in action and his devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the American Division, and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President under the provisions of the Act of Congress, approved 9 July 1916.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:

  
JOHN H. BATTIS  
Maj, AGC  
Acting Adjutant General

ROBERT W. HESSELT  
Colonel, GS  
Chief of Staff