

DECLASSIFIED

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTER TASK FORCE OREGON (PROVISIONAL)
APO San Francisco 96374

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 116

22 August 1967

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

1. TO 320. The following AWARD is announced.

BARNHILL, JERRY R. , SECOND LIEUTENANT, INFANTRY, United States Army, Company A, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry, 1st Brigade 3d1st Airborne Division APO 96347.

Awarded: Silver Star

Date action: 18 May 1967

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For gallantry in action against a hostile force on 18 May 1967 near Duc Pho, Republic of Vietnam. Second Lieutenant Barnhill distinguished himself with heroic action while engaged on a search and destroy mission. The first platoon, Company A, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry came under a tremendous volume of automatic and semi-automatic weapons fire from an estimated Viet Cong platoon. Lieutenant Barnhill immediately moved to the front of his element and started maneuvering his element against the enemy positions. As the enemy fire increased, he realized that an enemy machine gun position had to be destroyed before he could effectively engage the enemy. With complete disregard for his own safety, Lieutenant Barnhill, with resolute determination jumped up, exposing himself to a hail of enemy fire and assaulted the machine gun position. His valiant effort silenced the machine gun position by killing the two enemy soldiers. As a result of Lieutenant Barnhill's decisive and courageous actions, his platoon was able to overrun the enemy positions, routing the enemy who left behind nine dead and eight weapons. Lieutenant Barnhill's outstanding display of unquestionable valor in close combat is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, Task Force Oregon, and the United States Army.

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