

DECLASSIFIED

 Authority: AWO 968137  
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HEADQUARTERS  
 TASK FORCE OREGON (PROVISIONAL)  
 APO San Francisco 96374

GENERAL ORDERS  
 NUMBER 669

15 September 1967

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced posthumously.

COACHMAN, JAMES L. JR. SPECIALIST FIVE E5, United States Army, Company A, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division APO 96347

Awarded: Silver Star

Date action: 15 August 1967

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For gallantry in action against a hostile force on 15 August 1967 in the Republic of Vietnam. Specialist Five Coachman distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions and personal sacrifice. While moving his squad down a jungle trail, they were assaulted by a North Vietnamese platoon. Specialist Coachman's squad received heavy fire from both flanks and was pinned down. As the fire fight raged, the two closest positions to him were attacked by a human wave assault of a North Vietnamese squad. Realizing that his two positions were greatly outnumbered, he courageously burst from his covered position and, exposing himself to the hostile fire with utter disregard for his own safety, personally assaulted the on-rushing enemy soldiers. Specialist Coachman physically made contact with three of the enemy and subdued them. Continuing forward, he aggressively engaged the enemy with suppressive fire and grenades. Before he fell mortally wounded, he successfully overran the position and killed four of the enemy. Specialist Five Coachman's undaunted courage and outstanding display of gallantry in close combat against a numerically superior force has distinguished him and reflected the utmost credit upon himself, 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 1918.