

HEADQUARTERS
I FIELD FORCE VIETNAM
APO San Francisco 96350

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 210

7 March 1968

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

I. TO 320. The following AWARD is announced.

JURINSKY, JOHN RA11351877 STAFF SERGEANT 25 United States
Army 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry, APO San Francisco 96347.

Awarded: Silver Star

Date action: 2 October 1967

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: Gallantry in action: Staff Sergeant Jurinsky distinguished himself on 2 October 1967 while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam while serving with Company I, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. Sergeant Jurinsky's platoon was given the mission of assaulting a North Vietnamese Army defensive perimeter. The North Vietnamese Army force was in well camouflaged bunkered positions above Sergeant Jurinsky's platoon. The platoon deployed on line with two squads and began to move forward. Sergeant Jurinsky was initially with the third squad and in a reserve rear security position when suddenly the left flank squad was taken under an intense volume of enemy automatic weapons fire and became pinned down. The right flank squad began to maneuver, but became heavily engaged with automatic weapons and grenades. Sergeant Jurinsky immediately deployed his squad, gathered grenades and ammunition and rushed forward through the vicious enemy automatic weapons fire. With complete disregard for his own safety, Sergeant Jurinsky rushed forward and threw three hand grenades into the enemy bunker at a range of about ten meters. As the burst from the exploding grenades went off, Sergeant Jurinsky personally assaulted the enemy bunker and successfully killed the North Vietnamese Army soldier inside. He was then taken under heavy enemy automatic weapons fire again and was hit by a Chi-Con grenade that failed to explode. Sergeant Jurinsky withdrew from his exposed position only after all the men had pulled back below the next terrace. Sergeant Jurinsky single-handedly broke a counter-attack by throwing grenades and firing his M-16. Sergeant Jurinsky covered the withdrawal of the other squads to positions where they could secure their dead and wounded and while under fire he helped carry them from their extremely exposed position. Sergeant Jurinsky's outstanding display of gallantry in action and his devotion to duty are within the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.