

HEADQUARTERS
I FIELD FORCE VIETNAM
APO San Francisco 96350

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 338

12 April 1967

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

RELAN, CHARLES G CAPTAIN INFANTRY United States Army Company B,
2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry, APO San Francisco 96347.
Awarded: Silver Star
Date action: 10 February 1967
Theater: Republic of Vietnam
Reason: Gallantry in action: The forward elements of Captain Belan's company, while on a search and destroy mission, located an enemy base camp. Immediately, Captain Belan maneuvered his company so as to effectively surround the base camp. As Captain Belan's company began to converge on the base camp, the forward elements were suddenly brought under a murderous volume of enemy fire. Realizing the precarious situation that the lead element was in, Captain Belan quickly began to press the remainder of the company into the assault. When another element of the company was brought under an equally withering volume of enemy fire, Captain Belan, with complete disregard for his own personal safety, charged through the enemy fire and personally led the assault against an estimated Viet Cong platoon and successfully routed the enemy force. As the remainder of the company continued to move forward in the assault, another element of the company began to receive heavy enemy fire from a different direction. Again Captain Belan charged through the withering enemy fire and personally led the element against an estimated Viet Cong squad. Once again, an element was brought under fire from an estimated Viet Cong squad and again Captain Belan moved through the enemy fire and led his troops on a successful assault which overran the enemy position. Captain Belan's heroic actions were an inspiration to his men and a direct contribution to the destruction of the enemy base camp. As a result of his exemplary bravery, several enemy soldiers were killed, various weapons captured and sixteen prisoners of the Viet Cong were released. Captain Belan's outstanding gallantry in action and his avid devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest military traditions and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President under the provisions of USAFV Message 16695, 1 July 1966 and paragraph 27, AR 672-5-1.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:

William E. James
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Colonel, AGC
Adjutant General

LEWIS S. BOWENRIGHT
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