

REAGUARDIERS
I FIELD FORCE VIETNAM
APR 80 Francisco 96390

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 976

22 December 1967

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

1. TC 320. The following award is annexed.

WILLEN, MARTIN PRIVATE FIRST CLASS W3 United States Army
Company B, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne
Division. APO San Francisco 96247.

Awarded: Silver Star

Date Section: 13 August 1967

Taiwan Republic of China

Reason: Gallantry in action: Private First Class Gillen distinguished himself by gallantry in action while engaged in military operations against an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 13 August 1967, while serving as a member of Company B, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 503d Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. Private Gillen, a machine gunner, was with his platoon when it was attacked by a North Vietnamese Army force. He placed steady, accurate fire upon the enemy, and his position soon became a prime target. He steadfastly remained at his gun in spite of the numerous assaults launched upon his individual position. He succeeded in killing several of the enemy during these assaults but received several wounds from grenades in the legs, arms and face. His gun was badly damaged by the grenade explosions as well. With complete disregard for his personal safety, he exposed himself to the withering hail of enemy fire and put his gun back into action. He refused medical aid, resumed his vicious fire upon the enemy, and for four hours succeeded in driving back enemy assaults. In the coming after the enemy had withdrawn, twenty-two enemy dead were found within thirty-five meters of his position. Private Gillen's outstanding display of personal courage and devotion to duty has been in the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

Authoritative: By direction of the President under the provisions of USAEW
Message 16695, 1 July 1955 and paragraph 27, AR 672-5-1.

FIG THE COMMANDS:

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL:

GERALD L. OVERSTREET
Colonel, AAC
Adjutant General

GENERAL S. K. WILSON
Major General, USA
Chief of Staff