

HEADQUARTERS
AMERICAL DIVISION
APO San Francisco 96374

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 1421

27 November 1967

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

PENKALA, PAUL J. PRIVATE FIRST CLASS E3; United States Army, Company B, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division APO 96347

Awarded: Silver Star

Date action: 21 August 1967

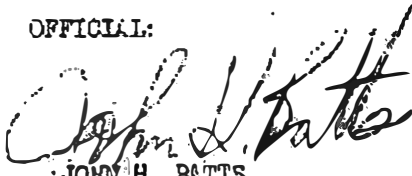
Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For gallantry in action against a hostile force on 21 August 1967 near Duc Pho, Republic of Vietnam. Private First Class Penkala distinguished himself when his platoon came under intense enemy fire. During the engagement, Private Penkala noticed two North Vietnamese Army soldiers with automatic weapons sneaking up behind his squad. Realizing that the two could easily annihilate the squad, Private Penkala, with fearless aggression and utter disregard for his own safety, ran towards them and killed them both at close range with the last round from his shotgun. Then, seeing his squad withdrawing, he picked up a wounded comrade's weapon and placed effective covering fire on the enemy, killing one more soldier. Through his courageous action, Private Penkala undoubtedly saved the lives of the men in his squad. Private First Class Penkala's unquestionable valor and his devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President under the provisions of the Act of Congress, approved 9 July 1918.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:


JOHN H. BATTIS
MAJ, AGC
Acting Adjutant General

ROBERT H. MUSSER
Colonel, GS
Chief of Staff