

HEADQUARTERS
I FIELD FORCE VIETNAM
APO San Francisco 96350

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 983

23 December 1967

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

BEETS, RONNIE D SPECIALIST FOUR E4 United States Army Company B,
2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry, APO San Francisco 96347.

Awarded: Silver Star

Date action: 13 August 1967

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: Gallantry in action. Specialist Four Beets 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), 502d Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. Specialist Beets was serving as a machine gunner with his platoon when it came under extremely heavy attack while moving from Landing Zone White near Chu Lai. He manned a position on the perimeter, putting effective fire upon the enemy. During the night, the numerically superior North Vietnamese Army force mounted a full scale attack with mortars, rockets, grenades, automatic and small arms fire. Specialist Beets' position became a prime target, and he was severely wounded in both legs by grenades and rockets. When the medic came forward to treat him, he refused treatment and told the medic to roll him over to his gun. Once in position, although in great pain, he again began to fire upon the enemy. He remained in position under the withering hail of enemy fire with complete disregard for his safety and injuries, until the enemy had been beaten back. Only then did he allow himself medical treatment. In the morning, six enemy bodies were found within twenty meters of his position. Specialist Beets' outstanding display of heroism in action and his devotion to duty were in the highest traditions of the military service 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 26695, 1 July 1966 and paragraph 27.A. 672-5-1.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:



GERALD L. OVERSTREET
Colonel, AGC
Adjutant General

GEORGE S. BLANCHARD
Brigadier General, USA
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