

HEADQUARTERS
 AMERICAL DIVISION
 APO San Francisco 96374

GENERAL ORDERS
 NUMBER 1410

27 November 1967

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

BOWYER, KENNETH , STAFF SERGEANT E6, United States Army,
 Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d
 Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division APO 96347

Awarded: Silver Star

Date action: 11 July 1967

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For gallantry in action against a hostile force on 11 July 1967 near Duc Pho, Republic of Vietnam. During the early morning hours, the second section of the Reconnaissance platoon, while set up in a perimeter, was suddenly attacked by an estimated reinforced North Vietnamese company with automatic weapons, grenades, and mortars. Staff Sergeant Bowyer immediately began to direct the platoon's fire as he moved through the heavy fire, giving his men encouragement and pointing out enemy positions. Shortly after the battle started, Sergeant Bowyer was struck in the head and face by grenade fragments and temporarily blinded. Disregarding his own wounds and safety, Sergeant Bowyer crawled through intense enemy fire until the area where his wounded had been placed. Still unable to see, Sergeant Bowyer valiantly crawled among his wounded comrades giving them encouragement. Sergeant Bowyer, realizing the great possibility of being overrun, began to organize the wounded men and prepare them for the defense of an all-out enemy assault. Approximately one hour after being wounded, Sergeant Bowyer's vision returned and he began to move about the perimeter giving aid to the wounded and, on several occasions, crawled outside the perimeter in order to gather equipment and ammunition for his men. Staff Sergeant Bowyer's outstanding display of gallantry in action, his devotion to duty and his men 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.