

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Headquarters 101st Airborne Division
APO San Francisco 96383

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 1338

7 February 1969

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

HAYES, JAMES M CAPTAIN INFANTRY Headquarters and
Headquarters Company 2d Battalion (Airborne) 502d Infantry APO San Francisco
96383

Awarded: The Silver Star

Effective month:

Date action: 6 October 1968

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 6 October 1968. Captain Hayes distinguished himself while searching for a downed helicopter near the city of Phu Loc, Republic of Vietnam. Captain Hayes' lead element suddenly came under intensive enemy automatic weapons fire from well-fortified positions. Captain Hayes moved through the heavy fire to personally take command of the lead element. He then directed the retaliatory fire of his men, moving throughout the area giving words of encouragement to them. Because of his leadership, he and his men finally over-ran the enemy positions. Captain Hayes then established a defensive perimeter to evacuate the dead and wounded and replenish the exhausted ammunition supply. At this time, the enemy unleashed a barrage of rocket, small arms, and mortar fire on his company's position. While under attack, Captain Hayes, with complete disregard for his own safety, ran through incoming enemy fire to direct the evacuation of the wounded. On several occasions, he moved the wounded personnel to safety. During the attack, he adjusted helicopter gunship and artillery fire, which eventually silenced the enemy positions. He then personally directed the evacuation of the wounded, giving them words of encouragement and assisting medical personnel in the treatment of the seriously wounded. Captain Hayes' personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with 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 of the United States under the provisions of the Act of Congress, approved 9 July 1918.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:

L. L. MOWERY
Colonel, GS
Chief of Staff

for MAJ AGC

DALE H. HAYES
LTC, AGC
Adjutant General

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