

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

GENERAL ORDERS

NUMBER 3472

15 July 1968

SECTION I

THE SILVER STAR MEDAL

1. TC 320. The following AWARDS are announced.

YORK, STEPHEN W PRIVATE FIRST CLASS (E-3) Company  
B 1st Battalion 501st Infantry APO San Francisco 96383

Awarded: The Silver Star Medal

Date action: 29 March 1968

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 29 March 1968. Private First Class York distinguished himself while serving as a machine gunner of Company B, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 501st Infantry during a combat operation along the Song Bo River, Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. Before attempting to cross the river, a three man point team was sent across in advance to secure the far bank. Upon reaching the opposite side of the river, the point team came under intense automatic and small arms fire wounding all three men. Cries for help from the wounded man could be heard from across the river. Realizing the seriousness of the situation, Private First Class York volunteered to assist in an attempt to rescue the wounded man. With complete disregard for his own personal safety, and carrying his machine gun, he, along with the other members of the rescue team, began to make their way across the river using a sampan for cover. They proceeded to the center of the river under a hail of enemy fire. Then the strong current caused the sampan to turn around, thereby exposing the rescue team to the heavy volume of fire being directed at them. Supporting his machine gun on the sampan, Private First Class York managed to place effective fire on the enemy positions while exposing himself to their fire, thereby allowing the remainder of the rescue team to effect a withdrawal back to the near bank of the river. Although the rescue attempt did not succeed, in their heroic effort to save their comrades, Private First Class York and the other members of the rescue team displayed extraordinary courage and bravery against impossible odds. Private First Class York's 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 an Act of Congress established 9 July 1918.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:

W. P. TALLON  
Colonel, GS  
Chief of Staff

  
H. K. LABAR  
LTC, AGC  
Adjutant General

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