

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

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 9341

13 November 1968

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR MEDAL

1. TC 320. The following AWARDS are announced.

GHEEN, KENNETH G CAPTAIN INFANTRY Company C 1st Battalion
(Airborne) 502d Infantry APO San Francisco 96383

Awarded: The Silver Star Medal

Effective month: October 1968

Date action: 21 July 1968

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 21 July 1968.

Captain Gheen distinguished himself while serving as the Commanding Officer of Company C, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry. Company C was on a combat operation in the village of Song Tri in the Province of Quang Dien, Republic of Vietnam. While searching for North Vietnamese Army soldiers that were reported to be in the area of the Song Tri Village, the company came in contact at approximately 1730 hours. The company was receiving automatic weapons fire, small arms fire, and hand grenades from well fortified enemy bunkers. In the early moments of the battle, Captain Gheen moved to an area where he could direct fire into one of the enemy bunkers. Captain Gheen brought suppressive fire on the enemy position which allowed the company headquarters section to reach a secured area. Once this was done, Captain Gheen, without regard for his own safety, crawled approximately fifty meters, in intense enemy fire, through an open field to the enemy positions that were hidden in the trees. When Captain Gheen reached a distance of twenty-five meters from the enemy bunker, he opened fire with his M-16 rifle and threw hand grenades. Captain Gheen's actions neutralized the enemy bunker and killed two North Vietnamese Army soldiers that were inside. Captain Gheen's heroism in close combat against a numerically superior Viet Cong force was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects 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:

W. P. TALION, JR
Colonel, GS
Chief of Staff

for: Mr. Marsh, MA - AGC
M. K. LABAR
LTC, AGC
Adjutant General

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