

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

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 9853

26 November 1968

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

1. TC 320. The following AWARDS are announced.

CARTER, LESLIE D JR () LIEUTENANT COLONEL INFANTRY Headquarters and Headquarters Company 1st Battalion (Airborne) 502nd Infantry APO San Francisco 96383

Awarded: The Silver Star Medal

Effective Month: November 1968

Date action: 21 June 1968

Theater: Republic of Vietnam


Reason: For gallantry in action while engaged in military operations against an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 21 June 1968. Lieutenant Colonel Carter distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as the Battalion Commander of the First Battalion (Airborne), 502nd Infantry on a combat operation in the Republic of Vietnam. During the early morning hours Lieutenant Colonel Carter was directing the assault of Company B from his command and control helicopter on the village of Bao La, Quang Dien District, Thua Thien Province. When the assault element passed several enemy bunkers without seeing them, Lieutenant Colonel Carter observed movement of enemy soldiers. He immediately realized the potential danger. A few yards to the north of these bunkers, the assault element received intense fire and was forced momentarily to halt the advance. This move placed the company command group in extreme danger, since they were directly in front of the enemy bunkers. With the assault element engaged with an enemy to their front, and the rear security too removed to be of immediate assistance, Lieutenant Colonel Carter landed his helicopter approximately fifty meters from the bunker and advanced on it. He exposed himself to fire both from the bunker and the enemy force to the front. He led the attack on the bunker, and quickly destroyed it, killing three Viet Cong. His bravery was a turning point in the battle, both inspiring the men of the assault group, and eliminating a threat to the advancing troops. Lieutenant Colonel Carter's extraordinary heroism in close combat against a superior Viet Cong force was 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 1916.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:

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


LTC, AGC
Adjutant General

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