

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

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 10234

6 August 1969

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR (POSTHUMOUS)

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

MARTIN, JOHN D PRIVATE FIRST CLASS Company A 1st Battalion (Airborne) 502d
Infantry APO San Francisco 96383

Awarded: The Silver Star (Posthumous)

Effective month: N/A

Date action: 8 July 1969

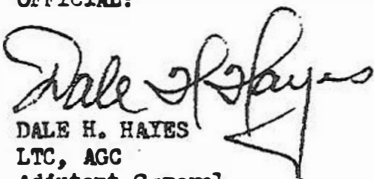
Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 8 July 1969. Private Martin distinguished himself while serving as a machine gunner with the Third Platoon of Company A, 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry, near Chu Lai, Republic of Vietnam. The Third Platoon was moving along a narrow jungle trail when it was ambushed by an estimated company size enemy force. Private Martin immediately returned fire opening a gap in the enemy's ambush and the remainder of the squad quickly moved through the opening in order to get out of the killing zone. Private Martin then lead the squad through the thick underbrush coming face to face with the enemy on numerous occasions. Each time, a carefully aimed burst from his machine gun silenced the enemy and allowed the men to move on in their attempt to get back to the company. The overpowering enemy reduced the squad down to Private Martin and his assistant gunner. As the ~~squad~~ broke into an open area, four or five enemy soldiers jumped on Private Martin in what seemed to be an attempt to take him prisoner. He struggled with them and managed to seriously wound two of them. The enemy then fired upon him, knocking him to the ground and wounding him several times. With his machine gun out of ammunition, he got to his feet and fought the enemy using hand to hand combat, until he succumbed to his wounds. Private Martin'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 the Act of Congress approved 25 July 1963.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:



DALE H. HAYES
LTC, AGC
Adjutant General

HUGH A. MACDONALD
Colonel, GS
Chief of Staff

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