

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

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 9610

26 July 1969

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR (POSTHUMOUS)

TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

PAPE, JOHN C. CAPTAIN INFANTRY Company B 1st Battalion (Airborne) 501st  
Infantry APO San Francisco 96383

Awarded: The Silver Star (Posthumous)

Effective month: N/A

Date action: 18 May 1969

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 18 May 1969. Captain Pape distinguished himself while serving as the Commanding Officer of Company B, 1st Battalion, 501st Infantry, on a combat operation in Quang Tin Province, Republic of Vietnam. On the cited date, at approximately 1500 hours, the Second Platoon of Company B was given the mission of reconnoitering an area for the company's night location. As it moved into the predetermined area, it received eighty-two millimeter mortar fire. Captain Pape, who was with the First and Third Platoons at the time, skillfully maneuvered the entire company toward the suspected enemy positions and forced the unknown size enemy force to break contact and flee. With nightfall approaching, he gave orders to stop and set up in a night defensive perimeter. As the company, was digging its night positions, it again received mortar fire. When the initial rounds wounded numerous personnel, Captain Pape, with utter disregard for his own safety, left his entrenched position to help move the wounded men to safety. It was at this time Captain Pape suffered fatal fragmentation wounds. His conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the cost of his own life saved a number of his subordinates from further injury and possible death. Captain Pape'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:

HUGH A. MACDONALD  
Colonel, GS  
Chief of Staff

*For S. G. Howell (PT, AGC)*  
DALE H. HAYES  
LTC, AGC  
Adjutant General

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