

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

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 6806

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

PARKER, GEORGE W
501st Infantry APO San Francisco 96383

PLATOON SERGEANT Company E 2d Battalion (Airborne)

Awarded: The Silver Star

Effective months: NA

Date action: 13 May 1969

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 13 May 1969. Sergeant Parker distinguished himself while serving as platoon sergeant of the mortar section of Company E, 2d Battalion, 501st Infantry, during combat support operations in the A Shau Valley, Republic of Vietnam. At approximately 0330 hours on the cited date, Fire Support Base Airborne was attacked by an estimated battalion of North Vietnamese Army soldiers. The enemy force consisted of an infantry element, mortar section, and sapper squads. The enemy force assaulted the perimeter from two sides under the cover of a heavy mortar barrage. The enemy soldiers penetrated the perimeter line obstacles and immediately engaged the night defensive positions of the fire base. Supported by the infantry, sapper squads moved among bunkers and mortar positions, hurling satchel charges and engaging in hand to hand combat with the defenders. In the immense confusion, Sergeant Parker moved among his mortar crews, utilizing his M-16 rifle to cover his advance. While assisting a mortar crew, an exploding satchel charge knocked him unconscious. Upon regaining consciousness, he continued to direct mortar crews in the firing of illumination and high explosive mortar rounds. In the process, he was knocked down three additional times by exploding satchel charges. Sergeant Parker'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:

M. H. MURLEY
Colonel, GS
Chief of Staff


DALE H. HAYES
LTC, AGC
Adjutant General

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