

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

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 8213

21 July 1970

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR (POSTHUMOUS)

TC 439. The following AWARD is announced.

GEAR, GARY W. SP4 11B20 Co E 2d Bn (Aml) 502d Inf (WACQEO)
APO SF 96383

Awarded: The Silver Star (Posthumous)

Date of service: 20 May 1970

Theater: Republic of Vietnam


Authority: By direction of the President of the United States under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 25 July 1963.

Reason: For gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 20 May 1970. Specialist Gear distinguished himself while serving as a machine gunner in Company E, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 502d Infantry, during combat operations in Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. While approaching an enemy bunker complex, Specialist Gear's platoon received intense hostile fire. Despite the heavy volume of enemy fire, Specialist Gear rushed forward with his weapon and returned suppressive machine gun fire on the enemy positions. Shortly thereafter, Specialist Gear was wounded by hostile fire. Despite his wounds, he continued firing and continued moving forward ahead of the rest of the men. He maneuvered from position to position under hostile fire in spite of his wounds to provide covering fire for his comrades. While maneuvering against the insurgents, Specialist Gear was mortally wounded by a command-detonated anti-personnel mine. Specialist Gear'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.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:

HUGH A. MACDONALD
Colonel, GS
Chief of Staff


THOMAS E. MINIX
LTC, AGC
Adjutant General

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