



The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, 9 July 1918 (amended by act of 25 July 1963), has awarded the Silver Star to:

**FIRST LIEUTENANT JOHN A. KIEFFER
COMPANY B, 1ST BATTALION, 61ST INFANTRY (MECHANIZED)**

For gallantry in action against an enemy of the United States while serving as a Platoon Leader with Company B, 1st Battalion, 61st Infantry (Mechanized) on 2 August 1970 in the Republic of Vietnam. On this date, he volunteered to lead a four man team to retrieve an armored vehicle which had been abandoned while being used in heavy contact with the North Vietnamese Army. During the recovery, First Lieutenant Kieffer and his team came under heavy enemy small arms, rocket propelled grenade, and automatic weapons fire. Rather than move to a secure location, he delivered suppressive fire until his team and the previously abandoned vehicle were successfully moved to a position of safety. First Lieutenant Kieffer's actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon him, the 5th Infantry Division, and the United States Army.

