West Sayville Veteran Served as Army Infantryman in Vietnam

Hauppauge, NY – On Thursday, Rep. Steve Israel (D – Huntington) presented six overdue service medals to Vietnam Veteran Peter Butko of West Sayville, NY. Butko was drafted into the United States Army and served with the 9th Infantry Division in the Cailai province in Vietnam from April 18, 1966 until April 17, 1968. Butko never received his commendations and contacted Rep. Israel for assistance.

“Our veterans put their lives on the line defending our country. It’s our duty to make sure they get every medal and every benefit that they earned. Veterans Day reminds us of their sacrifices, but we need to fight for those who fought for us every single day. I’m honored to be able to present Peter Butko with his long overdue service medals,” said Rep. Israel.

Butko will be presented with the following medals:

1) The Army Commendation Medal
2) The National Defense Service Medal
3) The Vietnam Service Medal with 1 bronze service star
4) The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Ribbon
5) The Combat Infantryman Badge
6) Expert Marksman Badge with Rifle Bar

Rep. Israel's office was able to obtain the medals through the National Personnel Records Center and is available to assist any veteran who thinks he or she might be entitled to service medals. Rep. Israel has also secured more than $4.8 million in overdue veterans benefits for Long Island veterans.