

HEADQUARTERS  
TASK FORCE OREGON (PROVISIONAL)  
APO San Francisco 96374

GENERAL ORDERS  
NOF&P 311

22 August 1967

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

1. TO 320. The following AWARD is announced.

PISCOPO, SAMUEL JR. PRIVATE FIRST CLASS E3, United States Army, Company A, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division APO 96374

Awarded: Silver Star

Date action: 2 December 1966

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For gallantry in action against a hostile force on 2 December 1966 near Tuy Hoa, Republic of Vietnam. Private First Class Piscopo distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous action and personal bravery as he and two companions were moving into an observation post when they unknowingly walked into an enemy position and were immediately assaulted with a tremendous volume of enemy fire. In that initial burst of fire, one man was wounded and lay in an exposed area. Private Piscopo, with complete disregard for his own safety, exposing himself to the brutal enemy fire, rushed to the aid of his wounded comrade and pulled him to a relatively safe area. The situation was worsened by the destruction of the wounded man's weapon and the ineffectiveness of the other's grenade launcher due to the close-in fighting involved. The enemy soldiers, not receiving any return fire, started to move toward the three men in an attempt to possibly retrieve weapons and equipment. Private Piscopo, observing that the enemy were approaching his position, jumped to his feet and, again with disregard for his own safety, fearlessly assaulted the advancing ranks of the enemy. Even though receiving intense automatic weapons fire from the startled enemy, Private Piscopo remained in his exposed position dauntlessly engaging the enemy. His determined effort killed two enemy soldiers and wounded another. As the remaining two Viet Cong began to withdraw and flee from the battle area, he gave chase for a short distance, wounding one of them. As a result of Private Piscopo's courage and determination, the lives of two Americans were saved, two enemy soldiers killed, two wounded, and three weapons captured. Private Piscopo's impeccable display of valor, his resolute determination and devotion to duty, and his unselfish concern for the life of a fellow soldier while engaged in close combat against a numerically superior force are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, Task Force Oregon, and the United States Army.