REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 968137
By NARA Date 5/10/07

HEADQUARTERS
TASK FORCE OREGON (PROVISIONAL)
APO San Francisco 96374

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 659

13 September 1967

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced posthumously.

PETRAMALO, THOMAS SECOND LIEUTENANT, INFANTRY, United States Army, Company B, 2d Battalion (Airborne) 502d Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division APO 96347

Awarded: Silver Star
Date action: 13 August 1967
Theater: Republic of Vietnam
Reason: For gallantry in action against a hostile force on 13 August 1967 in the Republic of Vietnam. Second Lieutenant Petramalo distinguished himself by his unparalleled determination and personal sacrifice. During a heliborne assault Lieutenant Petramalo's platoon encountered an enemy minefield in the landing zone. The platoon began to probe the minefield and cautiously maneuver through it when they were brought under extremely heavy automatic weapons fire. The enemy fired from three directions and pinned the squad down. With complete disregard for his own safety, Lieutenant Petramalo rushed forward through the hail of hostile fire to the front elements of his platoon and led them through the minefield to a covered position. Still exposed to the enemy fire, he moved from position to position directing covering fire for the remainder of the platoon as they crossed the open minefield. Realizing that he was engaged with a numerically superior force, Lieutenant Petramalo once again braved the intense fire to reach his radio telephone operator and call in effective artillery supporting fire. Seeing that one of his men lay wounded in an area exposed to the hostile fire, Lieutenant Petramalo once again, with utter disregard for his own safety while exposing himself to enemy fire, ran forward to the aid of the wounded man. At this time Lieutenant Petramalo was mortally wounded. Lieutenant Petramalo's unquestionable display of valor and his devotion to duty while engaging a numerically superior hostile force in close combat were in keeping with the finest traditions of the military service and reflected the utmost credit upon himself, Task Force Oregon, and the United States Army.
Authority: By direction of the President under the provisions of the Act of Congress, approved 9 July 1918.

Copyright 2017 by Ryan Niebuhr @ 2ndbde.org or as attributed.