

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

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 9767

22 November 1968

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR (FIRST OAK LEAF CLUSTER)

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

GENTILE, FRANCIS J. SPECIALIST FOUR Headquarters
and Headquarters Company 2d Battalion (Airborne) 501st Infantry APO San
Francisco 96383

Awarded: The Silver Star (First Oak Leaf Cluster)

Effective month: November 1968

Date action: 22 March 1968.

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 22 March 1968. Specialist Gentile distinguished himself while serving with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 501st Infantry, near Hu, Republic of Vietnam. The company had set up a night operations position on a ridgeline when it was hit by heavy hostile mortar fire. Although wounded by shrapnel during the initial bursts of mortar fire, Specialist Gentile refused to accept any medical attention. Ignoring the imminent danger of further wounds, he moved through the intense enemy fire to treat other wounded men. When the pain of his wounds forced him to discontinue moving about, he directed the wounded to be brought to him for treatment. Only after he was certain that he had given first aid to each wounded man, did Specialist Gentile consent to his own evacuation. His determined selflessness saved the lives of many of his comrades. Specialist Gentile'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.

Authority: By direction of the President of the United States under the provisions of the Act of Congress, approved 9 July 1918.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

22 Nov 68

OFFICIAL:

W. P. TALLON, JR
Colonel, GS
Chief of Staff

for M. K. Meador MAJAGC
M. K. MEADOR
LTC, AGC
Adjutant General

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