

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

21 July 1969

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 9281

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

SAITTA, JOSEPH J                      SPECIALIST FOUR Headquarters and Headquarters Company 2d Battalion  
(Airborne) 502d Infantry APO San Francisco 96383

Awarded: The Silver Star

Effective month: NA

Date action: 9 June 1969

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 9 June 1969. Specialist Saitta distinguished himself while serving as a medical aidman in Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 502d Infantry, at Fire Support Base Currahee, in the A Shau Valley, Republic of Vietnam. The fire base came under an intense mortar attack. Specialist Saitta was in the aid station when he received word that an allied unit had received injuries from a direct hit on a bunker. He assembled some first aid material and in the middle of the attack, ran across the entire fire base to recover the wounded men. After bringing the casualties to the aid station, he again moved through the intense mortar fire to attempt to find other injured personnel. While running across open ground, he was seriously wounded by an exploding mortar round, but after hasty self first aid, he continued to treat other wounded individuals and refused to be evacuated. After the cessation of incoming rounds, he again refused to be evacuated and assisted in the treatment and evacuation of others at the aid station. He remained at the aid station throughout the night and finally consented to be evacuated in the morning when he was assured that no other wounded personnel remained to be treated. Specialist Saitta'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 25 July 1963.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:



DALE H. HAYES  
LTC, AGC  
Adjutant General

M. H. MURLEY  
Colonel, GS  
Chief of Staff

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