



Vietnam Security Police Association Freedom Is Not Free

United States Air Force
Military Police
Air Police
Security Police

Recipients Awarded the
Silver Star

Name	Rank	Base / Date	Awards
Bender, Carl	Maj	377th SPS, TSN, 31 Jan 1968 (TET) (killed 8 NVA) [LTC, Ret]	
<u>Bevich, George Jr.</u>	A2C	Posthumously: Tan Son Nhut AB, 4 Dec. 1966	
<u>Caputo, Thomas J.</u>	Sgt	Phan Rang, 26 Jan 1969. <u>K-9 Fritz</u> KIA	
<u>Coggins, Alonzo J.</u>	Sgt	377th SPS, TSN, 31 Jan 1968 (TET), Bunker O-51.	
<u>Curie, Alvin W.</u>	A2C	Tan Son Nhut AB, 4 Dec. 1966	
<u>Cyr, William J.</u>	Sgt	Posthumously: 377th SPS, TSN, 31 Jan 1968 (TET) , Bunker O-51.	
DeNisio, Carl B.	Capt		
<u>Fisher, Louis H.</u>	Sgt	Posthumously: 377th SPS, TSN, 31 Jan 1968 (TET) , Bunker O-51.	
<u>Fox, Roger P.</u>	Maj	377th SPS, TSN, Dec 4-5, 1966	
Gifford, Bernard C.	TSgt	377th SPS, TSN, 31 Jan 1968	
<u>Hebron, Charles E.</u>	Sgt	Posthumously: 377th SPS, TSN, 31 Jan 1968 (TET) , Bunker O-51.	
Ingalsbe, Gerald E.	Lt		
<u>Jensen, Terance K.</u>	SSgt	Posthumously: 23rd ABG/APS, Đà Nẵng, 1 Jul 1965	
<u>Kirk, Lawrence S.</u>	SSgt		
Miller, Arthur D.	SSgt		
<u>Mills, Roger B.</u>	Sgt	Posthumously: 377th SPS, TSN, 31 Jan 1968 (TET) , Bunker O-51.	
<u>Nigh, Eddie S.</u>	Sgt	3rd SPS, Biên Hòa AB, 31 Jan 1968	
Ott Jr., Robert E.	SSgt		
Palmer, Billy M.	TSgt		
Pedersen, William R.	TSgt		
<u>Piazza, William</u> (Pete)	SSgt	3rd SPS, Biên Hòa AB, 31 Jan 1968	
<u>Poole, Tommy C.</u>	A2C	Tan Son Nhut AB, 4 Dec. 1966.	
Powell Jr., William H.	Maj		
Redmond, Glenn R.	SSgt		
<u>Sawyer, Larry H.</u>	SMSGT	3rd SPS, Biên Hòa AB, 31 Jan 1968	
Shelstead, Kenneth S.	MSGT		
<u>Strones, Martin E.</u>	Capt	3rd SPS, Biên Hòa AB, 31 Jan 1968	
Tucker, Richard	A1C		

Silver Star was established by Congress on 9 JUL 18.

Award: *Awarded for each Citation received by US Air Force personnel for gallantry in action not sufficient to warrant the Medal of Honor or the Distinguished Service Cross. The Silver Star is currently awarded by all branches of the armed forces to any person who, while serving in any capacity, is cited for gallantry in action against an enemy of the United States while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force, or while serving with friendly forces against an opposing armed force in which the United States is not a belligerent party.*

Design: Designed by the firm of Bailey, Banks and Biddle. On August 8, 1932, the Silver Star was re-designed as a medal by an Act of Congress. This medal, is a gilt-toned star of five points. On the obverse side in the center, is a small silver star (the same size as the original citation star), centered within a wreath of laurel. Eighteen rays radiate from the star to the wreath. The reverse of the star has the inscription, "For Gallantry in Action" in raised letters, below which is a blank area suitable for engraving the recipient's name.



Ribbon: The Ribbon, one of the most striking of all American awards has a wide center stripe of red flanked on either side by a wide stripe of dark blue, a wide stripe of white, a thin stripe of white and a narrow stripe of dark blue at the edges. **History:** The Silver Star Medal had its beginning during World War I. An Act of Congress of July 9, 1918, authorized the wearing by Army personnel of a small silver star, 3/16 of an inch in diameter, upon the service ribbon of a campaign medal, to indicate "a citation for gallantry in action, published in orders issued from headquarters of a general officer, not warranting the award of a Medal of Honor or Distinguished Service Cross." Known in the Army as the "citation star," the award was made retroactive, so that all those cited for gallantry in action in previous campaigns, even as far back as the Spanish-American War, were eligible to wear it.

It is estimated that more than 20,000 members of the Army received such citations before 1918. A similar device was authorized for Navy and Marine Corps personnel in 1920 which authorized a "special letter of commendation" to be awarded on the recommendation of the Board of Naval Award. Receipt of this special letter of commendation authorized its recipient to wear a small silver star on the ribbon of the Victory Medal.

Army announced that anyone who had previously earned a Citation Star could apply for the Silver Star Medal. Navy and Marine Corps personnel could only apply, if they were awarded a citations star by the Army. The status of the Silver Star was further clarified, when on August 7, 1942, Congress authorized the award of the Silver Star to any person who, while serving in any capacity with the Navy since December 6, 1941, distinguished himself by gallantry and intrepidity in action, but not of a nature to justify the award of the Navy Cross. Four months later, on December 15, 1942, the decoration was extended to Army personnel for gallantry in action, but not of a degree to justify an award of the Distinguished Service Cross.

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