



CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF

THE SILVER STAR

TO

ROBERT W. KIRKPATRICK

Major Robert W. Kirkpatrick distinguished himself by gallantry in connection with military operations against an opposing armed force as a C-130E Navigator for the 345th Tactical Airlift Squadron at An Loc, Republic of Vietnam, on 18 April 1972. On that date, Major Kirkpatrick flew a tactical emergency low level resupply mission of critically needed ammunition to a besieged concentration of allied forces located in a heavily defended hostile area. While delivering his cargo, Major Kirkpatrick aircraft was so severely damaged from hostile anti-aircraft fire that a crash landing was required. During the entire operation, Major Kirkpatrick's professionalism and performance significantly contributed to the first successful crash landing of a C-130E without the loss of life in a combat environment. By his gallantry and devotion to duty, Major Kirkpatrick has reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.





# THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TO ALL WHO SHALL SEE THESE PRESENTS, GREETING:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT  
THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
AUTHORIZED BY ACT OF CONGRESS JULY 9, 1918  
HAS AWARDED

## THE SILVER STAR

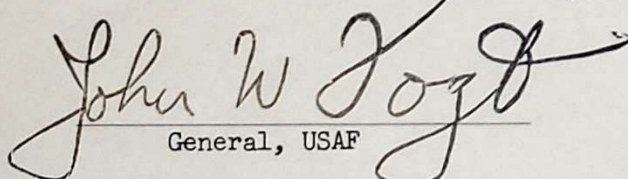
TO

MAJOR ROBERT W. KIRKPATRICK

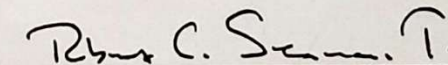
FOR  
GALLANTRY IN ACTION

18 April 1972

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND IN THE CITY OF WASHINGTON  
THIS 15th DAY OF August 19 72

  
General, USAF



  
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE





The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, 9 July 1918 (amended by act of 25 July 1963), has awarded the **SILVER STAR** to

**CAPTAIN ROBERT A. FRANK**  
**F TROOP, 9TH CAVALRY**

**For Gallantry in Action:** while serving as the Air Mission Commander and Pilot on a spontaneous rescue mission to recover the crew of a downed United States Air Force C-130 during the North Vietnamese Army siege of An Loc, Republic of Vietnam on 18 April 1972. Trailing the burning aircraft to the crash site south of An Loc, Captain Frank coordinated the accurate fires from two accompanying AH-1 Cobra Gunships to suppress numerous enemy positions. He continued coordinating the rescue efforts of his crew and the covering fire of the attack helicopters until all crewmembers of the downed C-130 were on board of his and a second helicopter, which had arrived at the scene. Despite being critically low on fuel with only minutes of flight time left, Captain Frank dauntlessly continued with his mission. Captain Frank's timely and courageous actions greatly contributed to the successful completion of the mission and are in keeping with the highest traditions of military heroism, valor and gallantry and reflect great credit upon himself, the 1st Cavalry Division and the United States Army.





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## THE SILVER STAR

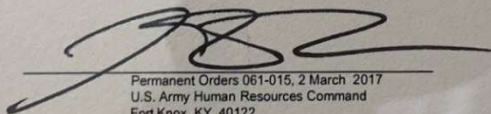
TO  
CAPTAIN ROBERT A. FRANK  
F TROOP, 9TH CAVALRY  
FOR

GALLANTRY IN ACTION

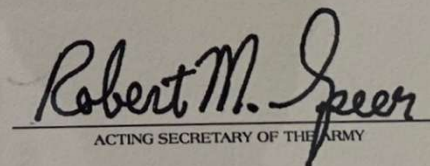
ON 18 APRIL 1972 IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND IN THE CITY OF WASHINGTON

THIS 2ND DAY OF MARCH 2017

  
Permanent Orders 061-015, 2 March 2017  
U.S. Army Human Resources Command  
Fort Knox, KY 40122



  
ACTING SECRETARY OF THE ARMY



CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF  
THE SILVER STAR  
TO  
WILLIAM C. ARMISTEAD

Sergeant William C. Armistead distinguished himself by gallantry in connection with military operations against an opposing armed force as a C-130E Loadmaster for the 345th Tactical Airlift Squadron at An Loc, Republic of Vietnam, on 18 April 1972. On that date, Sergeant Armistead flew a tactical emergency low level resupply mission of critically needed ammunition to a besieged concentration of allied forces located in a heavily defended hostile area. While delivering his cargo, Sergeant Armistead aircraft was so severely damaged from hostile anti-aircraft fire that a crash landing was required. During the entire operation, Sergeant Armistead's professionalism and performance significantly contributed to the first successful crash landing of a C-130E without the loss of life in a combat environment. By his gallantry and devotion to duty, Sergeant Armistead has reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.





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HAS AWARDED

## THE SILVER STAR

TO

SERGEANT WILLIAM C. ARMISTEAD

FOR

GALLANTRY IN ACTION

18 April 1972

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND IN THE CITY OF WASHINGTON  
THIS 15th DAY OF August 19 72

*John W. Fogt*  
General, USAF



*Robert C. Seamans, Jr.*  
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE