



CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF  
THE SILVER STAR  
TO  
SERGEANT GEORGE P. GONZALES

Sergeant George P. Gonzales distinguished himself by gallantry in connection with military operations against an opposing armed force near Thanh Hoa, North Vietnam on 10 December 1972. On that date, Sergeant Gonzales voluntarily flew into a highly hostile and heavily defended area to attempt the rescue of a downed American airman. When all of the miniguns on his hovering helicopter were rendered inoperative due to intense ground fire, he valiantly continued protective fire with his handheld weapon in order that the helicopter's position above the survivor could be maintained. By his gallantry and devotion to duty Sergeant Gonzales has reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

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