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### Cralle awarded Silver Star

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# NEWS

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### CRALLE AWARDED SILVER STAR

MISSOULA---

Army Maj. Maury S. Cralle Jr., Missoula, has been awarded a Silver Star for gallantry in action during the recent Tet Offensive in Vietnam.

Maj. Cralle, who is still serving in Vietnam, taught in the Army ROTC department at the University of Montana from 1965-67.

The Silver Star was awarded to Maj. Cralle for his participation in combat near Hue Feb. 4 during the Tet Offensive. While serving as operations officer of the 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry, Cralle directed boundary defenses under heavy attack and cooperated in devising a plan to remove the battalion from its own newly-encircled position.

Under Cralle's direction, the battalion moved for 11 hours during the night through the North Vietnamese positions. The battalion went undetected and eventually occupied and commanded an area deep inside the enemy territory, dividing the enemy in two.

Cralle was assigned to the University of Montana Army ROTC department from 1965-67 after returning from his first tour in Vietnam. He was an adviser to Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) Ranger Battalion during his first tour, <sup>to Vietnam</sup> and returned for a second tour in August of 1967.

Maj. Cralle's wife Penny and their five daughters live in Missoula. He is scheduled to return to Montana in August.

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