

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1857

To authorize the President to award the Medal of Honor posthumously to Major Dominic S. Gentile of the United States Army Air Forces for acts of valor during World War II.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 16, 2015

Mrs. BEATTY (for herself and Mr. STIVERS) introduced the following bill;  
which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

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## A BILL

To authorize the President to award the Medal of Honor posthumously to Major Dominic S. Gentile of the United States Army Air Forces for acts of valor during World War II.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. AUTHORIZATION FOR AWARD OF MEDAL OF**  
4 **HONOR TO DOMINIC S. GENTILE FOR ACTS**  
5 **OF VALOR DURING WORLD WAR II.**

6 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-  
7 ings:

1           (1) Major Dominic S. Gentile of the United  
2       States Army Air Forces destroyed at least 30 enemy  
3       aircraft during World War II, making him one of  
4       the highest scoring fighter pilots in American history  
5       and earning him the title of “Ace of Aces”.

6           (2) Major Gentile was the first American fight-  
7       er pilot to surpass Captain Eddie Rickenbacker’s  
8       WWI record of 26 enemy aircraft destroyed.

9           (3) Major Gentile was awarded several medals  
10      in recognition of his acts of valor during World War  
11      II, including two Distinguished Service Crosses,  
12      seven Distinguished Flying Crosses, the Silver Star,  
13      the Air Medal, and received similar honors from  
14      Great Britain, Italy, Belgium, and Canada.

15          (4) Major Gentile was born in Piqua, Ohio, and  
16      died January 23, 1951, after which he was post-  
17      humously appointed to the rank of major.

18          (5) Major Gentile is buried in Columbus, Ohio.  
19      Gentile Air Force Station in Kettering, Ohio, is  
20      named in his honor and he was inducted into the  
21      National Aviation Hall of Fame in 1995.

22      (b) AUTHORIZATION.—Notwithstanding the time lim-  
23      itations specified in section 3744 of title 10, United States  
24      Code, or any other time limitation with respect to the  
25      awarding of certain medals to persons who served in the

1 Armed Forces, the President is authorized to award the  
2 Medal of Honor posthumously under section 3741 of such  
3 title to former Major Dominic S. Gentile of the United  
4 States Army Air Forces for the acts of valor during World  
5 War II described in subsection (c).

6 (c) ACTS OF VALOR DESCRIBED.—The acts of valor  
7 referred to in subsection (b) are the actions of then Major  
8 Dominic S. Gentile who, as a pilot of a P-51 Mustang  
9 in the Army's 336th Fighter Squadron, Fourth Fighter  
10 Group, of the Eighth Air Force in Europe during World  
11 War II, distinguished himself conspicuously by gallantry  
12 and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond  
13 the call of duty by destroying at least 30 enemy aircraft  
14 during his service in the United States Army Air Forces.

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