



Hidalgo County Commissioners Court

Ramon Garcia
County Judge

A. C. Cuellar, Jr.
Commissioner, Precinct 1

Eduardo "Eddie" Cantu
Commissioner, Precinct 2

Joe M. Flores
Commissioner, Precinct 3

Joseph Palacios
Commissioner, Precinct 4

OFFICE OF HIDALGO COUNTY JUDGE RAMON GARCIA

Public Affairs Division
Julia Benitez Sullivan
Director

302 W. University Drive
Edinburg, Texas 78539
(956) 292-7026 P
(956) 292-7766 F
www.co.hidalgo.tx.us W
public.info@co.hidalgo.tx.us E

Contact: Julia Benitez Sullivan
Phone: 956.292.7026
Email: julia.sullivan@co.hidalgo.tx.us
public.info@co.hidalgo.tx.us

NEWS ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, March 2, 2015

Commissioners Court will honor WWII First Special Service Force veteran

EDINBURG – Rio Grande Valley native son Eugene Gutierrez Jr. will be honored with a resolution at Hidalgo County Commissioners Court Tuesday, March 3 at 9:30 a.m.

Modern special force units can trace their heritage to this first commando unit, also known as the Devil's Brigade. The 1st Special Service Force earned a reputation for taking impenetrable objectives when no-one else could. One of their missions – taking out a strategic enemy defensive position high atop a mountain surrounded by steep cliffs in Italy – was the basis for the 1968 film "The Devil's Brigade."

The 1st Special Service Force was presented with a Congressional Gold Medal – the highest civilian award the U.S. Congress can bestow – in a ceremony at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. last month. Mr. Gutierrez was one of only two members selected to receive the honor on behalf of the 1st Special Service Force.

All area WWII veterans are encouraged to attend the meeting, held at the Edinburg City Council Chambers, 415 W. University Drive.

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A copy of the resolution will be available at Commissioners Court; photos available upon request.

Hidalgo County is home to one of the fastest growing regions in the nation. We provide health and justice to the 800,000 residents of our county as well as a variety of services to residents who live outside city limits. We strive to be accessible and responsive to our citizens by providing excellent public service through the values of leadership, transparency, fairness, collaboration, respect and fiscal responsibility.

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