



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MACDOWELL**

NORMAN J.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1958

Year Discharged: 1962

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS & SERVICE COMPANY, TRAINING & TEST (T&T) REGIMENT

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Norman J. MacDowell as a Mortar Man during 16 months of foreign duty

Base Assignments:

Marine Corps Base Quantico, Virginia - Commonly abbreviated MCB Quantico, Marine Corps Base Quantico is a United States Marine Corps installation located near Triangle, Virginia, covering nearly 86.169 square miles) of southern Prince William County, Virginia, northern Stafford County, and southeastern Fauquier County / Used primarily for training purposes, MCB Quantico is known as the "Crossroads of the Marine Corps" / In 1917, Marine Barracks, Quantico was established and thousands of Marines were trained at Quantico during World War I / In 1934, Amphibious Warfare Doctrine, along with special amphibious landing crafts for World War II were developed at Quantico / These Amphibious Warfare techniques, developed in the years before World War II, made victory possible in the Pacific theater / Quantico trained over 15,000 USMC and other service officers in Amphibious Warfare techniques / The first Marine Aircraft Wing was developed at Quantico, as well as the Corps' first helicopter squadron, Marine Helicopter Squadron One (HMX-1), the first helicopter squadron to provide rapid transportation for Presidents of the United States ("Marine One")

Miscellaneous:

Norman MacDowell received his Honorable Discharge from the US Marine Corps on 3 August 1962 / Norman J. MacDowell passed away on 16 October 2019

The Marine Corps Headquarters and Service company includes all command, administration, intelligence, operations, logistics, and communication Marines and equipment, as well as the battalion's Scout Sniper platoon and Battalion Aid Station (BAS) staffed by U.S. Navy Hospital Corpsman



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A Mortar Man is a soldier who operates a firing device called a mortar / Mortar Men in the U.S. Marines are the unit that's mainly responsible for the tactical employment of the 60 mm light mortar and the 81 mm medium mortar

Name: **MACKINNON**

JAMES

W.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: 2LT

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

1ST RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON, 6TH ARMORED CAVALRY

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Second Lieutenant James William "Jim" MacKinnon served in the United States Army Reserve and spent 6 months of active duty / MacKinnon served as a Tank Unit Commander

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James MacKinnon attended Canisius College earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Economics / MacKinnon was hired by Cardinal O'Hara High School as a gym teacher and coach for basketball and cross-country / James MacKinnon later coached sports at DeSales High School and Turner High School / MacKinnon worked for the New York Life Insurance Company, retiring as Managing Agent / James William "Jim" MacKinnon passed away at the age of 85 years old on 18 October 2022

The 6th Cavalry ("Fighting Sixth") is a regiment of the United States Army that began as a regiment of cavalry in the American Civil War / The 6th Cavalry was redesignated as the 6th Armored Cavalry in 1960 / 1st Squadron is the air cavalry reconnaissance squadron of the 1st Infantry Division Combat Aviation Brigade, stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MACLEOD**

DONALD

J.

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **NAVY**

Rank: **E-2**

Year Entered: **1972**

Year Discharged: **1973**

Unit / Squadron:

USS LAFFEY (DD-724)

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Fireman Recruit

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Donald MacLeod was Honorably Discharged from the US Navy on 20 July 1973 / Donald J. MacLeod passed away on 26 February 2021

USS Laffey (DD-724) is an Allen M. Sumner-class destroyer, which was constructed during World War II, laid down and launched in 1943, and commissioned in February 1944 / Laffey was the second ship of the United States Navy to be named for Bartlett Laffey / Seaman Laffey was awarded the Medal of Honor for his stand against Confederate forces on 5 March 1864 / The ship earned the nickname "The Ship That Would Not Die" for her exploits during the D-Day invasion and the battle of Okinawa when she successfully withstood a determined assault by conventional bombers and the most unrelenting kamikaze air attack in history / In mid January 1952, she sailed for Korea and took part in the blockade of Wonsan in Korea / The USS Laffey was decommissioned on 9 March 1975 / Laffey received the Presidential Unit Citation and five battle stars for World War II service, the Korean Presidential Unit Citation and two battle stars for Korean War service, the Meritorious Unit Commendation during the Cold War, and the Battle "E" during all three conflicts / Laffey was declared a National Historic Landmark in 1986, at which time she was recognized as the only remaining US-owned Sumner-class destroyer, and for her spirited survival of the kamikaze attack / Today, Laffey is a U.S. National Historic Landmark and is preserved as a museum ship at Patriots Point, outside Charleston, South Carolina



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Name: MAHLMEISTER

THOMAS

R.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address: SENECA STREET

☐ Vietnam Era

☒ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SSGT

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

4713TH RADAR EVALUATION SQUADRON

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

☒ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant Thomas R. Mahlmeister was part of his unit's Honor Guard at the funeral of Astronaut Gus Grissom who perished when his Apollo 1 Command Module interior caught fire and burned on January 27, 1967 during a pre-launch test

Base Assignments:

Lackland AFB, San Antonio, Texas - Construction on Lackland Air Force Base began on 15 June 1941, and it was originally part of Kelly Field / On 3 Feb 1948, the facility was named Lackland AFB after Brigadier General Frank Lackland, who was commissioned into the regular Army after serving in the National Guard, District of Columbia / Lackland is best known for its role in being the sole location for U.S. Air Force enlisted Basic Military Training (BMT) for the active duty Regular Air Force, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard

Stewart Air Force Base, Newburgh, New York - Stewart AFB is named after Captain Lachlan Stewart, a 19th Scottish-born sea captain who skippered schooners and other sailing vessels around 1850-1870 / During World War II the City of Newburgh turned the airport over to the United States Government for the purposes of training West Point cadets to fly / The field grew and at the end of World War II it became Stewart Air Force Base / Stewart was used for North American Air Defense (Headquarters US Army Air Defense Command Region I) until 1972, when the Air Force determined that the base was excess, and deeded Stewart Air Force Base to the State of New York

Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Saigon, Vietnam - Located near the city of Saigon in southern Vietnam, the French Colonial government of Indochina constructed a small unpaved airport in the 1920s, known as Tan Son Nhat



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Airfield / During the Vietnam War (1959-1975), Tan Son Nhut was a major United States base for Army, Air Force, Navy, and Marine units / As the headquarters for the South Vietnamese Air Force, Tan Son Nhut was primarily a command base, with most operational units using nearby Bien Hoa Air Base

Miscellaneous:

Thomas R. Mahlmeister graduated from Seneca Vocational High School and worked for AT&T prior to entering the military / After his Honorable Discharge, Mahlmeister went to work for Moog where he was employed as a technician in the Aerospace Department until his retirement / Thomas R. Mahlmeister passed away in 2017 and is interred in the Field of Valor within St. Matthew's Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

Fellow Apollo 1 astronauts Senior Pilot Ed White, who had flown in space on the Gemini 4 mission when he became the first American to make a spacewalk, and Pilot Roger B. Chaffee were also lost in the module fire on January 27, 1967 / Grissom's funeral services and burial at Arlington National Cemetery were held on January 31, 1967 / Dignitaries in attendance included President Lyndon B. Johnson, members of the U.S. Congress, and fellow NASA astronauts

Activated in 1954 at Griffiss AFB, New York, the mission of the Defense Systems Evaluation Squadron was to provide Electronic Counter-Measure (ECM) training and evaluation services to the various Aircraft Control and Warning Squadrons / The squadron was initially assigned TB-29 Superfortresses, and some TB-25 Mitchells / The B-29s and B-25s contained an assortment of Radar jamming devices to provide the required ECM and a C-47 was used as a support aircraft to ferry personnel and equipment / During the period that the 4713th operated these aircraft, they provided the operators radar squadrons with thousands of hours of ECM training / Effective 8 July 1958, the ADC re-designated the unit as the 4713th Radar Evaluation Squadron (ECM) / In the early years of the 1960's, the squadron was moved to Stewart AFB, New York and operated until 1974 when the squadron was inactivated



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Name: **MAHONEY**

MARY JOAN

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: O-4

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1973

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Lieutenant Commander Mary Joan Mahoney served as a Nurse for nearly 21 years in the Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Mary Joan Mahoney retired from the United States Navy with an Honorable Discharge on 30 June 1973 / Mary Joan Mahoney passed away on 25 February 2018



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MALONE**
RONALD

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address:

- ☐ Vietnam Era
☒ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

58TH INFANTRY PLATOON (SCOUT DOG), 101ST AIRBORNE

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

☒ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Ronald Malone served in Vietnam and was awarded the Purple Heart for injuries received in combat action

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ronald Malone was a member of Moose Lodge 2163 and Frontiersmen Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post 7545 / Ronald Malone passed away on 3 August 2023 at the age of 74 years old

The 58th deployed to Vietnam in February 1968 / Scout dogs were trained for jungle combat in a twelve week course that started with obedience and then taught voice and body signals / The German Shepherd Dog (GSD, also known as Alsatian) was the most common service dog in the Vietnam War, used for scouting, sentry duty, mine/tunnel detection, and water patrols / Labrador retrievers were also widely used, primarily as trackers / Dogs were trained to alert their handlers to all kinds of hidden dangers, from snipers to trip wires and weapons caches / Dogs could even detect enemy fighters submerged in rivers, breathing through hollow reeds and waiting to attack American watercraft / These dogs and their handlers are credited with saving more than 10,000 U.S. lives and preventing certain injury for countless more / The dogs were so effective that they became special targets for the enemy, who began attacking kennels and offering bounties for the shoulder patch of a dog handler or the tattooed ear of a service dog

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously



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Name: **MALONEY**

JAMES

B.

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address:

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **NAVY**

Rank:

Year Entered: **1964**

Year Discharged: **1968**

Unit / Squadron:

USS MISPELLION (AO-105)

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☒ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** **VIETNAM**

Service Notes:

Fireman James B. Maloney served aboard the oiler USS Mispillion, which refueled aircraft carriers and gunfire support ships of the 7th Fleet in Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James B. Maloney was Honorably Discharged from the United States Navy on 8 May 1968 / James Maloney was a member and Past Commander of the Matthew Glab American Legion Post #1477 / James B. Maloney passed away on 14 August 2019

USS Mispillion (AO-105) was an Ashtabula-class oiler[1] that served in the United States Navy from 1945 to 1974 / She was then transferred to the Military Sealift Command to continue in non-commissioned service as United States Naval Ship USNS Mispillion (T-AO-105), in which capacity she served until 1994 / Commissioned on 29 December 1945, the Mispillion has been the only U.S. Navy ship to bear the name / Between 1946 and 1950, she alternated on station tanker duty between Tsingtao, China; Shanghai, China; Subic Bay, Philippines; and Eniwetok, with shuttle runs between the oil port of Bahrain in the Persian Gulf and various ports in Japan, China, the Philippines, the Marshall Islands, and the Mariana Islands / With the outbreak of the Korean War, Mispillion joined Task Force 90 / During her first combat tour she provided logistic support for the huge invasion force that landed United Nations forces at Inchon on 15 September 1950, then rounded the Korean Peninsula to support the forces operating in the Wonsan area / She continued to support United Nations naval forces as they enforced a continuous blockade of the North Korean coast, rendered gunfire support to United Nations ground



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forces, and bombarded Communist supply areas, troop concentrations, and transportation centers / Operating in both the Yellow Sea and the Sea of Japan, Mispillion also supported the aircraft carriers of Task Force 77, providing aviation gasoline and fuel oil for the ships / In April 1967 Mispillion got underway for her first Western Pacific deployment since 1964 / Arriving at Subic Bay, Philippine Islands, on 22 April 1967, she began a seven-month cruise refueling aircraft carriers and gunfire support ships of the Seventh Fleet operating in the Vietnam area during the Vietnam War / Servicing in particular the ships of Yankee Station, she transferred over 71 million US gallons of fuel before returning to Long Beach on 30 November 1967 / Cruising United States West Coast and Hawaiian waters for the next five months, she conducted coastal operations and exercises in preparation for departing on 11 May 1968 to serve with the Seventh Fleet through the remainder of 1968 / Mispillion was decommissioned on 26 July 1974 and transferred to the Military Sealift Command, where she continued in non-commissioned U.S. Navy service with a civilian crew as United States Naval Ship USNS Mispillion (T-AO-105) / She was struck from the Naval Register on 15 February 1995 and moved to Brownsville, Texas for scrap/ The USS Mispillion was 67 years old, had the longest life overall and longest working life of any Cimarron-class oiler, and was the last World War II-built oiler in existence

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



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Name: **MAMON**

ROBERT

E.

Hometown: ELMA

Address:

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1968

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (RIFLE)

☒ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Specialist 4th Class Robert E.I Mamon served as a Laundry and Bath Specialist and stationed in Vietnam for 12 months

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Mamon was Honorably Discharged from the US Army on 29 April 1968 / Robert E. Mamon passed away on 3 November 2020

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The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has



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served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps



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Name: **MANCUSO**

JOSEPH

T.

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: MSGT

Year Entered: 1962

Year Discharged: 1999

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS & HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 2ND BRIGADE (ENGINEER OSUT)

98TH INFANTRY DIVISION (TRAINING)

Medals / Citations:

MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL W/1 SERVICE STAR

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Master Sergeant Joseph T. Mancuso served a total of 37 years in the US Army and Army Reserve from 1962-1999 / MSgt Mancuso was a veteran of the Vietnam War Era, Cold War and Gulf War

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Mancuso received his Honorable Discharge from the US Army on 22 August 1999 / Joseph T. "Moose" Mancuso passed away on 8 June 2023

The Meritorious Service Medal (MSM) is a military award presented to members of the United States Armed Forces who distinguished themselves by outstanding meritorious achievement or service to the United States in a designated combat theater / The meritorious acts or services rendered must be comparable to that required for the Legion of Merit but in a duty of lesser, though considerable, responsibility

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Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Engineer Brigade was constituted 12 June 1942 in the Army of the United States as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2d Engineer Amphibian Brigade / Redesignated



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26 June 1952 as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Amphibious Support Brigade, and allotted to the Regular Army / Redesignated 10 September 2009 as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Engineer Brigade / During World War II, the H&H Company, 2nd Brigade participated in the campaigns for New Guinea and Leyte, receiving the Presidential Unit Citation and the Philippine Presidential Unit Citation / Campaign battles during the Korean War included the UN Defensive and Offensive battles, the Communist Chinese Forces (CCF) Intervention and the UN Summer-Fall Offensive, receiving the Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation

The 98th Infantry Division ("Iroquois") was a unit of the United States Army in the closing months of World War I and during World War II / The unit is now one of the U.S. Army Reserve's training divisions, officially known as the 98th Training Division / The 98th Training Division's current primary mission is to conduct Initial Entry Training (IET) for new soldiers / It is one of three training divisions subordinate to the 108th Training Command (IET) / The 98th Division was activated at Camp McClellan, Alabama in October 1918, too late to see service in World War I / The 98th was ordered into active military service on 15 September 1942 at Camp Breckinridge, Kentucky, filling its ranks primarily with soldiers from New York and New England / The 98th spent the next eighteen months training at Camp Breckinridge, Kentucky, Camp Forrest, Tennessee and Camp Rucker, Alabama in anticipation of combat in the Pacific theater / Arriving in Oahu, Hawaii on 19 April 1944, the roughly 19,590 soldiers of the 98th relieved the 33rd Infantry Division of responsibility for the defense of the Hawaiian Islands and continued training for deployment to Asia / The 98th Infantry Division arrived in Japan on 27 September 1945 and served in Osaka, Japan as part of the occupying force until 16 February 1946 / In fall 2004, the 98th Division arrived in Baghdad and filled the ranks of the Multinational Security Transition Command-Iraq (MNSTC-I), the unit charged with assisting the Iraqi government in developing, training and equipping the new Iraqi security forces / Five 98th Training Division soldiers were killed in action during the division's deployment to Iraq in 2004–05 / The division also fielded soldiers to such other locations as Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, the Horn of Africa, Kuwait, Jordan and Afghanistan



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Name: **MANCUSO**
RAYMOND

Hometown: AMHERST

Address:

- ☐ **Vietnam Era**
☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☒ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Sergeant Raymond Mancuso was deployed to Vietnam for 12 months and served as an Aircraft Mechanic

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Raymond Mancuso was Honorably Discharged from the United States Air Force on 12 April 1972 / Raymond Mancuso passed away on 26 September 2017

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present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

Name: MANISCALCO

MARTIN

J.

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1964

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Marin Maniscalco worked for Dunlap Tire, retiring after 31 years , Maniscalco served as President of USW Local 135L SOAR / Marin J. Maniscalco passed away on 29 November 2023 at the age of 77 years old



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Name: **MANLEY**

JAMES

E.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address: LARKWOOD ROAD

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

2046TH COMMUNICATIONS GROUP - MILITARY AIRLIFT COMMAND (MAC)

1876TH COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON

1ACOMGP - STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND (SAC)

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON

VIETNAM SERVICE RIBBON

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN RIBBON

AIR FORCE COMMENDATION RIBBON

AIR FORCE GOOD CONDUCT RIBBON

NYS MEDAL FOR MERIT

☒ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Sergeant James E. Manley, as a Data Communications Center Operator, advised 7th Air Force Computer Operations personnel in correct electrical communications procedures using the IBM 360/50 SEEK Data II computer at Tan Son Nhut Air Force Base, Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Lackland AFB, San Antonio, Texas - Construction on Lackland Air Force Base began on 15 June 1941, and was originally part of Kelly Field / On 3 Feb 1948, the facility was named Lackland AFB after Brigadier General Frank Lackland, who was commissioned into the regular Army after serving in the National Guard, District of Columbia / Lackland is best known for its role in being the sole location for U.S. Air Force enlisted Basic Military Training (BMT) for the active duty Regular Air Force, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard

Sheppard AFB, Texas - The base, located near Wichita Falls, was is named in honor of Senator John Morris Sheppard of Texas (1875–1941), chairman of the Senate Military Affairs Committee from 1933 until his death on 9 April 1941. Senator Sheppard helped lead the fight for military preparedness before the attack on Pearl Harbor / It was officially opened as a United States Army Air Corps training center on 17 October 1941, following the arrival of the first military members on 14 June. As the Army Air Corps became the Army Air Forces, facilities were completed sufficiently to allow the first class of 22 aviation mechanics to enter training that October; the class graduated 23 February 1942 / Sheppard Field reached its peak strength of 46,340 people while serving as a



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separation center for troops being discharged following World War II from September through November 1945 / Communications, refrigeration, air conditioning, and power production operator and repairman training were transferred to Sheppard in 1959

Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio - The base began with the establishment of Wilbur Wright Field in May 1917 / Wright-Patterson AFB was established in 1948 as a merger of Patterson and Wright Fields / The base is one of the largest, most diverse, and organizationally complex bases in the Air Force with a long history of flight tests spanning from the Wright Brothers into the Space Age / Wright-Patterson is also the headquarters of the Aeronautical Systems Center and the Air Force Research Laboratory

Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Saigon, Vietnam - Located near the city of Saigon in southern Vietnam, the French Colonial government of Indochina constructed a small unpaved airport in the 1920s, known as Tan Son Nhat Airfield / During the Vietnam War (1959-1975), Tan Son Nhut was a major United States base for Army, Air Force, Navy, and Marine units / As the headquarters for the South Vietnamese Air Force, Tan Son Nhut was primarily a command base, with most operational units using nearby Bien Hoa Air Base

Offutt AFB, Omaha, Nebraska - The base was named to honor First Lieutenant Jarvis Jennes Offutt (26 October 1894 – 13 August 1918), the first native of Omaha to become a casualty in World War I / Lieutenant Offutt died of injuries sustained when his SE-5 fighter crashed during a training flight near Valheureux, France / In November 1948, Offutt became the host base for Headquarters Strategic Air Command (SAC) / During the Cold War, a general and various support personnel from the base were airborne 24-hours a day on an EC-135 from February 1961 to July 1990 in Operation Looking Glass, creating an airborne command post in case of war / Operation Looking Glass carried out its mission without any mishaps or incidents during its 29 years of existence / Offutt AFB's legacy includes the construction of the first two bombers to drop atomic bombs and over 40 years as the headquarters for the former Strategic Air Command (SAC) and home for its associated ground and aerial command centers for the U.S. in case of nuclear war during the Cold War

Miscellaneous:

James Manley graduated from Kenmore East Senior High School in 1966 / Prior to joining the U. S. Air Force, Manley worked in the Mail Room at Merchants Mutual Insurance Company / After an Honorable Discharge, Manley returned to Merchants as a Computer Operator / In 1980, Manley went to work for Biel's Micorofilm Corp as the Production Manager until downsizing in 1995 / With a Certificate in Records Management, Manley went to work in the West Seneca Town Clerk's Office in 1997 until his retirement in 2010 / Manley graduated from Erie Community College (ECC) in 2003 with a degree in Computer Information Systems / James Manley is an active member of American Legion Post 735, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and the West Seneca Joint Veterans Committee

Originally part of the 1062nd USAF Communications Squadron, the squadron was redesignated as the 2046th Communications Squadron at Wright-Patterson AFB in January 1953 / The 2046th supported the mission of the Military Airlift Command (MAC)



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MANN**

FRANK

D

Hometown: DEPEW

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Frank Manns retired from Quebecor, a diversified media and telecommunications company, in Depew where he was a printer for over 30 years / Frank D. Manns passed away on 24 November 2022



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MARCINIAK JR.**

FRANK

J.

Hometown: BLASDELL

Address:

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1968

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY B, 864TH COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

2 OVERSEAS BARS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

ARMY MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☒ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Specialist 4th Class Frank J. Marciniak served as a Carpenter during 12 months of deployment in Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Frank Marciniak, Sr. was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 19 June 1968 / Frank J. Marciniak, Sr. passed away on 4 January 2018

The 864th Engineer Battalion is a combat engineer battalion of the United States Army based at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington / The battalion is a subordinate unit of 555th Engineer Brigade / The 864th Battalion was activated in December 1942 at Geiger Field, Washington near Spokane / The Battalion served in the Pacific Theater during World War II, earning three campaign streamers for New Guinea, the Bismarck Archipelago, and Luzon / The unit also earned the Philippine Presidential Unit Citation / In May 1965, the battalion was deployed to Cam Ranh Bay, South Vietnam / The battalion was the first U.S. engineer battalion-size unit in Vietnam and responsible for port transportation and support facilities construction / As more engineer battalions were assigned to Vietnam, the unit was assigned missions of base camp construction and line of communication construction and maintenance / For its outstanding efforts, the battalion was awarded the distinctive designation "Pacemakers" by the United States Secretary of the Army in September 1968 / The battalion returned to the United States in August 1971, after earning thirteen campaign streamers, the Vietnamese Civic Action Honor Medal, First Class, and two Meritorious Unit Commendations / Returning to the United States, the



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battalion was assigned to Fort Lewis, Washington / In January 1991, the battalion deployed to Saudi Arabia for eight months in support of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm / During this period, the 864th was responsible for construction of 290 miles of petroleum pipeline, the repair and maintenance of main supply routes, enemy prisoner of war camp construction, and provided emergency services restoration to Kuwait City

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

An Overseas Service Bar indicates a soldier has served six months of service in a combat zone / Service Bars are cumulative, in that each bar worn indicates another six-month period / Time spent overseas is also cumulative, meaning one bar could be earned for two separate deployments totaling six months

The Army Meritorious Unit Award (MUA) is awarded to units of the United States Army who show exceptional meritorious conduct in their performance of duties for a period of at least 6 months during conflict with an armed enemy / While service in a combat zone is not necessary, their service must be directly related to the combat effort / Subsequent awards of the citation are displayed by wearing an Oak Leaf Cluster on the service ribbon

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The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MARESSA**

JOHN

F.

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☒ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Dr. John F. Maressa served as a Dental Officer during his deployment to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Dr. Maressa earned his pediatric dentistry specialty at the Buffalo Children's Hospital / Maressa taught dentistry for 15 years at the Children's Hospital and also had a private practice in Hamburg until his retirement in 2002 / Dr. John F. Maressa passed away on 24 September 2022



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MARKIEWICZ**
ROBERT

Hometown: DEPEW

Address:

- ☐ **Vietnam Era**
☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1967

Year Discharged: 1971

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☒ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Sergeant Robert W. Markiewicz served 2 years, 4 months of foreign service, including duty in South Vietnam with an Air Force Civil Engineer Squadron, US Air Force Pacific / Sgt Markiewicz served as a Fire Protection Specialist

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert W. Markiewicz received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Air Force on 22 July 1971 / Markiewicz served a decades-long career in the Air National Guard and as a civilian fire fighter on the Niagara Falls Air Force Base / Robert W. Markiewicz passed away on 12 August, 2023

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MARQUART**

RICHARD

A.

Hometown: CLARENCE

Address:

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1969

Unit / Squadron:

US NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION 7

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

NAVY UNIT COMMENDATION

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☒ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Petty Officer 2nd Class Richard A. " Dick" Marquart was a Navy Seabee and served as a heavy equipment operator and instructor

Base Assignments:

Naval Air Station, Corpus Christi Texas - Naval Air Station (NAS) Corpus Christi is a United States Navy naval air base located six miles southeast of the central business district of Corpus Christi, in Nueces County, Texas / The Naval Air Station was established in 1941 with the first flight training started on 5 May 1941 / In 1941, 800 instructors provided training for more than 300 student pilots a month / The training rate nearly doubled after the bombing of Pearl Harbor / By the end of World War II, more than 35,000 naval aviators had earned their wings / In 1944, it was the largest naval aviation training facility in the world covering 20,000 acres / Future President George H.W. Bush was the youngest pilot to receive his wings at NAS Corpus Christi in June 1943 / NAS Corpus Christi also was home to the Blue Angels from 1951 to 1954

Miscellaneous:

Richard Allen " Dick" Marquart passed away on 1 December 2021

Naval Mobile Construction Battalion SEVEN (NMCB 7) was a Navy Seabee battalion lasted homeported at Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport Mississippi / Nicknamed the "Magnificent Seven", it is one of the first ten Naval Construction Battalions formed by the U.S. Navy in 1942 / During World War II, NCB 7 made two deployments / The first was to Samoa and Espiritu Santo, New Hebrides / They had only been at Pago Pago, Samoa eight days when they were ordered forward to Espiritu Santo / The battalion arrived in August and



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constructed an airfield in 60 days / In 1961 the battalion was ordered to Naval Base Guantanamo Bay, Cuba in support of the base's Marine security force during the Cuban Missile Crisis, constructing more than 20 miles of perimeter roads and other base facilities in record time / In 1965 the battalion's deployment was split with the first half at Naval Station Rota and the second half in 1966 at Hue and Phu Bai in Republic of South Vietnam / Danang East was home to the main body in 1967-68 at Camp Adenir / Besides fielding Seabee teams, the battalion sent a 28 man detachment to the Royal Thai Air Force Base, at Nakhon Phanom, Thailand / The 1969-70 deployment took NMCB 7 to the combat base at Chu Lai / In August 1970 the battalion was decommissioned at the Construction Battalion Center, Davisville, Rhode Island / While in Vietnam, CB 7 had eight Seabee teams all in the south and Mekong delta / On 5 September 2012, Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 7 was decommissioned at CBC Gulfport, Mississippi

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The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

A Unit Citation is a formal, honorary mention by high authority of a military unit's specific and outstanding performance, notably in battle / Similar mentions can also be made for individual soldiers / Alternatively or concurrently, the unit can be awarded an honorary title, a mention on the flag or a decoration

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MARSHALL**

BRUCE

R.

Hometown: TOWN OF TONAWANDA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SMSGT

Year Entered: 1973

Year Discharged: 2010

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

AIR FORCE ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL (3 AWARDS)

IRAQ CAMPAIGN MEDAL

AIR FORCE EXPEDITIONARY SERVICE RIBBON

AIR FORCE COMMENDATION MEDAL

AIR FORCE OUTSTANDING UNIT AWARDS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR SERVICE MEDAL

AIR RESERVE FORCES MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDALS

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Senior Master Sergeant Bruce R. Marshall served our nation from 1973-2010 in the US Air Force and Air National Guard / He was a veteran of the Vietnam War Era, Persian Gulf War, Global War on Terrorism, and served at the WTC days after the terrorist attack on 9/11/2001 / SMSgt Marshall had multiple deployments world-wide, including Iraq, England, France, Israel, Saudi Arabia, and Panama

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Bruce Marshall received his Honorable Discharge from the US Air Force on 28 February 2010 / Bruce R. Marshall passed away on 18 May 2023 and is interred at Acacia Park Cemetery, North Tonawanda, New York

The Meritorious Service Medal (MSM) is a military award presented to members of the United States Armed Forces who distinguished themselves by outstanding meritorious achievement or service to the United States in a designated combat theater / The meritorious acts or services rendered must be comparable to that required for the Legion of Merit but in a duty of lesser, though considerable, responsibility

The Air Force Commendation Medal was authorized by the Secretary of the Air Force on March 28, 1958, for award to members of the armed forces of the United States who, while serving in any capacity with the Air Force after March 24, 1958, shall have distinguished themselves by meritorious achievement and service / The degree



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of merit must be distinctive, though it need not be unique / Acts of courage which do not involve the voluntary risk of life required for the Airman's Medal may be considered for the Air Force Commendation Medal

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The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses

The Air Force Outstanding Unit Award is one of the unit awards of the United States Air Force / It was established in 1954 and was the first independent Air Force decoration created / The Outstanding Unit Award is awarded to any unit of the U.S. Air Force (including the Air Force Reserve and the Air National Guard) which performs exceptionally meritorious service, accomplishes specific acts of outstanding achievement, excels in combat operations against an armed enemy of the United States, or conducts with distinct military operations involving conflict with, or exposure to, a hostile action by any opposing foreign force



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MARTIN JR.**

WILLIAM J.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SSGT

Year Entered: 1950

Year Discharged: 1974

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS BATTALION (HHB), 6TH BATTALION, 9TH FIELD ARTILLERY (FA)

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL W/4 SERVICE STARS

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

VIETNAMESE CROSS OF GALLANTRY

ARMY OF OCCUPATION MEDAL (GERMANY)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL W/OAK LEAF CLUSTER

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL W/SILVER CLASP

☒ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant (E-6) William J. Martin Jr served as a Tactical Communication Chief / SSgt Martin served in Vietnam and Germany / Staff Sergeant William Martin Jr. retired with an Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army after 24 years and 9 months of active service

Base Assignments:

Fort Hood, Texas - Fort Hood is a United States Army post located near Killeen, Texas and was named after Confederate General John Bell Hood / The post is the headquarters of III Corps and First Army Division West and is home to the 1st Cavalry Division and 3rd Cavalry Regiment / During the late 1960s, Fort Hood trained and deployed a number of units and individuals for duty in Vietnam / As the United States ended its role in the conflict, thousands of returning soldiers completed their active duty with one of the divisions / In 1971, the colors of the 1st Cavalry Division came to Fort Hood from Vietnam / On May 24, 2022, the Commission on the Naming of Items of the Department of Defense that Commemorate the Confederate States of America or Any Person Who Served Voluntarily with the Confederate States of America recommended the fort be renamed to Fort Cavazos, named after Gen. Richard E. Cavazos, a native Texan and the US Army's first Hispanic four-star general

Miscellaneous:

William J. Martin Jr. was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post 2940



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The 9th Field Artillery Regiment is a field artillery regiment of the United States Army first formed in 1916 / The regiment served in Hawaii during World War I, 3rd, 4th, 7th, and 9th Divisions between the world wars, and with 3rd Infantry Division during World War II and Korea / The 9th Field Artillery Battalion departed Hampton Roads Port of Embarkation, Hampton Roads, Virginia, on 27 October 1942, and landed in North Africa on 8 November 1942 as part of Operation Torch

Tactical Communication Chief (Enlisted) provides technical assistance in the planning, installation, operation and maintenance of communications systems/equipment

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The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

The Vietnam Gallantry Cross Medal was awarded by the Vietnam Government to military personnel who have accomplished deeds of valor or displayed heroic conduct while fighting the enemy and have been cited individually at the regiment, brigade, division, corps, or armed forces level

The Army of Occupation Medal is a military award of the United States military which was established by the United States War Department on 5 April 1946 / The medal was created in the aftermath of the Second World War to recognize those who had performed occupation service in either Germany, Italy, Austria, Japan or Korea / The first medal was presented to General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower, who had been the Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force Commander during World War II / Because of the legal status of West Berlin as an occupied territory, the Army of Occupation Medal was issued for forty-five years until the unification of Germany in 1990, making it one of the longest active military awards of both the Second World War and the Cold War / To be awarded the Army of Occupation Medal, a service member was required to have performed at least thirty consecutive days of military duty within a designated geographical area of military occupation

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MASON**

WILLIAM

P.

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

Address:

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

173RD AIRBORNE DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☒ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Private First Class William Paul (Bill) Mason served in Tuy Hoa as an Airborne Qualified Medical Corpsman / PFC Mason was Killed in Action on 4 March 1968 when the Armored Personnel Carrier (APC) he was riding in, was hit by enemy rocket fire / PFC William Mason was awarded the Purple Heart Medal, posthumously

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William Mason graduated from Orchard Park High School in 1965, where he played varsity football and basketball / Mason attended Hiram Scott College (Scottsbluff, Nebraska) before enlisting in the United States Army / William Paul (Bill) Mason was KIA on 4 March 1968 at the age of 20 years old and is interred at Whitmarsh Memorial Cemetery, Flourtown, Pennsylvania

The 173rd Airborne Brigade ("Sky Soldiers") is an airborne infantry brigade combat team (IBCT) of the United States Army / Activated in 1915, as the 173rd Infantry Brigade, the unit saw service in World War II but is best known for its actions during the Vietnam War / The brigade was the first major United States Army ground formation deployed in Vietnam, serving there from 1965 to 1971 and losing 1,533 soldiers / Noted for its roles in Operation Hump and Operation Junction City, the 173rd is best known for the Battle of Dak To, where it suffered heavy casualties in close combat with North Vietnamese forces / Brigade members received over 7,700 decorations, including more than 6,000 Purple Hearts / The 173rd Airborne Brigade has received 21 campaign streamers and several unit awards, including the Presidential Unit Citation for its actions during the Battle of Dak To during the Vietnam War



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The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MASSARI**

RICHARD

D.

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: CPT

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

25TH TACTICAL FIGHTER SQUADRON, 8TH TAC FIGHTER WING, 7TH AIR FORCE

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

AIR FORCE PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☒ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Captain Richard D. Massari was on his second tour of duty in Southeast Asia arriving on 24 October 1969 where he was assigned to and served with the 25th Tactical Fighter Squadron, 8th TAC Fighter Wing, 7th Air Force / Captain Massari previously spent a year at Cam Rahn Bay, Vietnam

On 6 June 1970 Captain Massari was killed when his F-4D Phantom jet experienced an engine failure during an approach for a landing and crashed in a rice paddy 13 miles northeast of the US Thai air field at Ubol, near the Cambodian border / His copilot ejected safely and rescued in satisfactory condition

Base Assignments:

Cam Ranh Air Force Base, Vietnam - Located on Cam Ranh Bay in Khánh Hòa Province, Vietnam, it was one of several air bases built and used by the United States Air Force (USAF) during the Vietnam War / Cam Ranh Air Force Base was part of the large Cam Ranh Bay logistics facility built by the United States / It was the major military seaport used by the United States for the offloading of supplies, military equipment and as a major Naval base / Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force units all had compounds and units assigned to the Cam Ranh Bay facility from its opening in 1965 until its closure in 1972 as part of the drawdown of United States military forces in South Vietnam

Miscellaneous:

Richard Massari graduated from Lackawanna Senior High School and the University of Alabama in 1965 with a degree in Aeronautical Engineering before enlisting in the United States Air Force / Richard D. Massari was 28



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years old at the time of his death and is interred at Holy Hope Cemetery and Mausoleum, Tucson, Arizona

The United States Air Force 8th Tactical Fighter Wing (TFW) is the host unit at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea and is assigned to Seventh Air Force. Seventh Air Force falls under Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) / Established in Japan after World War II in 1948, the wing flew combat missions throughout the Korean War / Redesignated the 8th Tactical Fighter Wing in 1958, it remained in Japan until 1964 / After a year in California, it moved to Southeast Asia, where its F-4 Phantom II crews earned the nicknames "MiG killers" and "bridge busters" / The wing carried out a number of roles during combat / By the end of 1966, aircrews assigned to the 8th TFW flew nearly 14,000 combat missions into Vietnam / In 1974 the wing relocated to Kunsan Air Base, South Korea, where it was redesignated the 8th Fighter Wing in 1992

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

The Presidential Unit Citation, originally called the Distinguished Unit Citation, is awarded to units of the United States Armed Forces for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after 7 December 1941

The Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Medal, also known as the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross or Vietnam Cross of Gallantry is a military decoration of the former Government of South Vietnam (Republic of Vietnam) / The medal was created on August 15, 1950 and was awarded to military personnel, civilians, and Armed Forces units and organizations in recognition of deeds of valor or heroic conduct while in combat with the enemy / Individuals who received the medal, ribbon, and a citation were personally cited at the Armed Forces, Corps, Division, Brigade or Regiment level / The United States military began authorizing the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross in March 1968 with retroactive presentation of the decoration to 1961

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed



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without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses

Name: **MAY**
CONRAD

Hometown: AMHERST

Address:

- ☐ **Vietnam Era**
☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☒ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Conrad May served in Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Air Force, Conrad May was employed by Moog Industries, retired after 39 years / Conrad May passed away on 24 August 2023 at the age of 76 years old



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Name: MAZURKIEWICZ

PAUL

K.

Hometown: LANCASTER

Address:

☐ Vietnam Era

☒ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

☒ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Paul Mazurkiewicz graduated from Bishop Timon High School in 1967 and graduated from Bryant and Stratton College / Mazurkiewicz worked for HSBC Bank for 43 years in the Information Technology Department before retiring / Paul K. Mazurkiewicz passed away at the age of 74 years old on 13 October 2022

The 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) ("Screaming Eagles") is a light infantry division of the United States Army that specializes in air assault operations / It can plan, coordinate, and execute multiple battalion-size air assault operations to seize terrain / These operations can be conducted by mobile teams covering large distances, fighting behind enemy lines, and working in austere environments with limited or degraded infrastructure / Its unique battlefield mobility and high level of training have kept it in the vanguard of U.S. land combat forces in recent conflicts / Established in 1918, the 101st Division was first constituted as an airborne unit in 1942 /] During World War II, it gained renown for its role in Operation Overlord (the D-Day landings and airborne landings on 6 June 1944, in Normandy, France); Operation Market Garden; the liberation of the Netherlands; and its action during the Battle of the Bulge around the city of Bastogne, Belgium / During the Vietnam War, the 101st Airborne Division fought in several major campaigns and battles, including the Battle of Hamburger Hill in May 1969 / In mid-1968, the division was reorganized and redesignated as an airmobile division; in 1974, as an air assault division / The titles reflect the division's shift from airplanes to helicopters as the primary method of delivering troops into combat / The Screaming Eagles have been referred to as "the tip of the spear" and the most potent and tactically mobile of the U.S. Army's divisions



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Name: MCCARTHY

CHARLES J.

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: CSSN

Year Entered: 1956

Year Discharged: 1960

Unit / Squadron:

USS ALAMEDA COUNTY (LST-32)

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Commissarymen Seaman (CSSN) Charles Justin McCarthy served aboard the USS Alameda County (LST-32) for 3 1/2 years

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles Justin McCarthy passed away on 14 April 2018

USS Alameda County (LST-32) was an LST-1-class tank landing ship built for the United States Navy during World War II / Like many of her class, she was not originally named, and only referenced by her hull designation / Later she was named for Alameda County, California, the only US Naval vessel to bear the name / She was commissioned on 12 July 1943 and served as a training platform in Chesapeake Bay, until March 1944, when she crossed the Atlantic Ocean and patrolled the Mediterranean Sea / LST-32 spent the next 10 months carrying supplies and munitions between various ports in the Mediterranean / In January 1945, she lifted British troops to Greece to help suppress a communist attempt to take over the government / She later transported prisoners, elements of the French Foreign Legion, railroad cars, and other vehicles between ports in Italy, France, and North Africa, before returning to the United States at New York, in July 1945 / After World War II, LST-32 operated in the Mediterranean Sea for the remainder of her active Navy career providing the 6th Fleet with the capability of establishing forward NATO air bases anywhere in the Mediterranean on short notice / On 25 June 1962, Alameda County was decommissioned at Naples; and her name was struck from the Naval Vessel Register on 30 June 1962, where she was transferred to the Italian Government



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Name: MCDONALD

RICHARD J.

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

☐ Vietnam Era

☒ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch:

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1967

Year Discharged: 1969

Unit / Squadron:

HHT, 3RD SQUADRON, 11TH ARMORED CAVALRY REGIMENT

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART MEDAL

COMBAT MEDICAL BADGE

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

BRONZE STAR MEDAL W/VALOR

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

1 OVERSEAS BAR

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☒ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Specialist Fifth-Class Richard J. McDonald served as a Medical Specialist / Following 10 weeks of Medical Corpsman training in Texas, SP4 McDonald served 11 months in Vietnam with HHT, 3rd Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment ("Blackhorse Regiment") / SP5 Richard McDonald was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for wounds received in combat action and was also awarded the Bronze Star Medal for bravery

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard McDonald received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army on 2 December 1969 / Richard J. McDonald passed away at the age of 69 years old on 28 May 2017

The 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment ("Blackhorse Regiment") is a unit of the United States Army garrisoned at the Fort Irwin National Training Center in California / HHT-1st Constabulary Regiment was converted, redesignated and consolidated into 11th ACR as HHT, 3rd Battalion, 11th ACR on 30 November 1948 / The regiment has served in the Philippine–American War, the Pancho Villa Expedition, World War II, the Vietnam War, Gulf War and Iraq War / The Blackhorse Regiment arrived in Vũng Tàu, South Vietnam on 7 September 1966 / Operation Hickory (7–15 October 1966) produced the first enemy casualties inflicted by the 3rd Squadron and elements of the 919th Engineer Company in the vicinity of Phu Hoa / The Tet Offensive of 1968 gave the squadron a chance to fight the enemy's troop formations in open combat / In Bien Hoa the 3rd Squadron drove



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the enemy forces from the area near III Corps headquarters / Its action was crucial in smashing the enemy's offensive

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously

The Bronze Star Medal (BSM) is a is the fourth-highest individual military award and the ninth-highest by order of precedence in the United States Armed Forces / The Bronze Star is awarded to members of the United States Armed Forces for either heroic achievement, heroic service, meritorious achievement, or meritorious service in a combat zone / When the medal is awarded by the Army and Air Force for acts of valor in combat, the "V" Device is authorized for wear on the medal

The Combat Medical Badge (CMB) is an award of the United States Army which was first created in January 1945 / Any member of the Army Medical Department, at the rank of colonel or below, who is assigned or attached to a ground combat arms unit of brigade or smaller size which provides medical support during any period in which the unit was engaged in ground combat is eligible for the CMB / According to the award criterion, the individual must be performing medical duties while simultaneously being engaged by the enemy; strict adherence to this requirement and its interpretation (e.g., distant mortar rounds vs. direct small arms fire) will vary by unit

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The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

An Overseas Service Bar indicates a soldier has served six months of service in a combat zone / Service Bars are cumulative, in that each bar worn indicates another six-month period / Time spent overseas is also cumulative, meaning one bar could be earned for two separate deployments totaling six months

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is



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awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses

Name: **MCDONALD JR.**

WILLIAM J.

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1961

Year Discharged: 1966

Unit / Squadron:

82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William J. McDonald Jr. passed away on 21 July 2020

The 82nd Airborne Division is an airborne infantry division of the United States Army specializing in parachute assault operations into denied areas with a U.S. Department of Defense requirement to "respond to crisis contingencies anywhere in the world within 18 hours" / Based at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, the 82nd Airborne Division is part of the XVIII Airborne Corps / The 82nd Airborne Division is the U.S. Army's most strategically mobile division



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Name: MCFARLAND

SCOTT L.

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: 1971

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS AND SERVICE (H&S) COMPANY, SUPPORT GROUP

Medals / Citations:

ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

2 OVERSEAS BARS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

MARKSMAN BADGE: M-16 RIFLE

SHARPSHOOTER BADGE: M-14 RIFLE

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Corporal Scott Lansing McFarland served as a Light Weapons Infantryman

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Scott L. McFarland was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post 2940

The Army Headquarters and Service company is made up of the battalion headquarters, which includes the battalion or regimental command section and the battalion/regimental headquarters executive staff, and headquarters support personnel of a battalion, or regiment

The Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (AFEM) is a military award of the United States Armed Forces, which was first created in 1961 by Executive Order of President John Kennedy / The medal is awarded to members of the U.S. Armed Forces who, after July 1, 1958, participated in U.S. military operations, U.S. operations in direct support of the United Nations, or U.S. operations of assistance for friendly foreign nations

An Overseas Service Bar indicates a soldier has served six months of service in a combat zone / Service Bars are cumulative, in that each bar worn indicates another six-month period / Time spent overseas is also cumulative, meaning one bar could be earned for two separate deployments totaling six months



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Name: MCGINLEY

THOMAS J.

Hometown: CLARENCE

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1966

Unit / Squadron:

3RD AVIATION FLIGHT DETACHMENT

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

MARKSMAN BADGE: M-1 RIFLE

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Specialist 5th Class Thomas J. McGinley served as a Multi Engine Airplane Mechanic and was stationed in Korea for 12 months

Base Assignments:

Ft. McPherson, Georgia - Fort McPherson was a U.S. Army military base located in Atlanta, Georgia and was the headquarters for the U.S. Army Installation Management Command, Southeast Region; the U.S. Army Forces Command; the U.S. Army Reserve Command; the U.S. Army Central / Named after Major General James Birdseye McPherson, the fort was founded by the U.S. Army in September 1867 / During World War I, Fort McPherson was used as a camp for Imperial German Navy prisoners of war and as a training site for the Active Army and Georgia National Guard / At the outbreak of World War II, Fort McPherson served as a general depot and as a reception center established to process thousands of men for entry into the service / In August 1945, as World War II ended, the United States War Department reversed the flow of work at the induction center and Fort McPherson became a separation center for almost 200,000 Soldiers and processed countless others for reassignment / As a result of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC 2005) recommendation, Fort McPherson was closed down 15 September 2011

Miscellaneous:

Thomas McGinley received an Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army on 2 September 1966 / McGinley was a member of the Ellicott Creek Volunteer Fire Company, a retired commercial pilot from Midway Airlines and an accomplished pianist and organist playing the Wurlitzer for many years at Shea's, Riviera Theatre, and Our Lady of Peace Church / Thomas J. McGinley passed away on 26 May 2022



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The 3rd Aviation Regiment is a regiment of the United States Army Aviation Branch / It operates the Boeing AH-64 Apache attack helicopter, Sikorsky UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter, and Boeing CH-47 Chinook helicopter / Originally designated the 3d Aviation Company (Combat), the unit was activated and assigned to the 3d Infantry Division on 1 July 1957 at Fort Benning, Georgia

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A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps



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Name: MCGUIRE

TIMOTHY

A.

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

Address:

☐ Vietnam Era

☒ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

GUNNER: FIRST-CLASS M-60 MACHINE GUN

VIETNAM SERVICE

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

MARKSMAN BADGE: M-14 RIFLE

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☒ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Corporal Timothy Albert McGuire served in Vietnam as a Light Weapons Infantryman / Corporal McGuire was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds suffered in combat

Base Assignments:

Fort Devens, Massachusetts - Fort Devens is a United States Army Reserve military installation in Worcester County in Massachusetts and was established on 5 September 1917 / It was named after jurist and Civil War general Charles Devens / In 1940, at the onset of World War II, Fort Devens was designated a reception center for all men in New England who would serve one year as draftees / The 1st, 32nd, and 45th Divisions trained at Devens during World War II / Devens also housed a prisoner of war camp for German and Italian prisoners from 1944 to 1946 / It was designated as early as 1942 for detaining "enemy aliens" of Italian, German and Japanese birth / The U.S. Army post which resided at Fort Devens was officially closed in 1996 after 79 years of service

Miscellaneous:

Light Weapons Infantryman lack heavy weapons and armor or with a reduced vehicle footprint / Light infantry units lack the greater firepower, operational mobility and protection of mechanized or armored units, but possess greater tactical mobility and the ability to execute missions in severely restrictive terrain and in areas where weather makes vehicular mobility difficult / Light infantry forces typically rely on their ability to operate under restrictive conditions, surprise, violence of action, training, stealth, field craft, and fitness levels of the individual soldiers to compensate for their reduced lethality / Despite the usage of the term "light", forces in a light unit must carry everything they require to fight, survive and win due to lack of vehicles



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The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously

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A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



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Name: **MCLELLAN**

LAWRENCE

D.

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1971

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

1ST BATTALION, 44TH AIR DEFENSE ARTILLERY (ADA)

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Corporal Lawrence David McLellan served as a Power Generator Equipment Repairman

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Lawrence D. McLellan was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post 2940

The 44th Air Defense Artillery Regiment is an Air Defense Artillery regiment of the United States Army, first constituted in 1918 in the Regular Army during World War I / .During World War II the unit served as the 54th Coast Artillery Regiment / In 1963, the 6th Missile Battalion, 44th Artillery (HAWK), 38th Artillery Brigade was deployed to South Korea / Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 54th Artillery Group; 54th Armored Field Artillery Battalion; and the 49th and 44th Field Artillery Battalions consolidated, reorganized, and redesignated 7 November 1969 as the 44th Artillery, a parent regiment under the Combat Arms Regimental System / Redesignated 1 September 1971 as the 44th Air Defense Artillery

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

The Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (AFEM) is a military award of the United States Armed Forces, which was first created in 1961 by Executive Order of President John Kennedy / The medal is awarded to members of the



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U.S. Armed Forces who, after July 1, 1958, participated in U.S. military operations, U.S. operations in direct support of the United Nations, or U.S. operations of assistance for friendly foreign nations

Name: **MCNAUGHTON**
MICHAEL

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

- ☐ Vietnam Era
☒ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

25TH INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

☒ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Michael "Mikey" McNaughton served two tours in Vietnam from 1967 - 1968 and was stationed in CuChi City, Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army, Michael McNaughton was employed by Sunbeam Broadcasting, Channel 7 as a Videographer in Miami, Florida / Michael "Mikey" McNaughton passed away at the age of 76 years old on 13 May 2023 and his cremated remains will be interred in Buffalo, New York

The 25th Infantry Division (nicknamed "Tropic Lightning") is a United States Army division based at Schofield Barracks in Hawaii / The division, which was activated on 1 October 1941 in Hawaii, conducts military operations primarily in the Asia-Pacific region / After undergoing major reorganizations in 1957 and 1963 to adapt to changing tactics, the division deployed to South Vietnam to fight in the Vietnam War between late 1965 and early 1966 / The 25th served in Vietnam until its withdrawal back to Hawaii in 1970–1971, participating in Operation Attleboro, Operation Cedar Falls, Operation Junction City, the Battle of Saigon during the North Vietnamese Tet Offensive, and the Cambodian Incursion / It was reorganized as a light infantry division in 1985, and elements have participated in the Iraq War and the War in Afghanistan



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Name: **MCPARLANE**

MICHAEL R.

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address:

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **MARINE CORPS**

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☒ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** **VIETNAM**

Service Notes:

Michael R. McParlane served in Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael McParlane joined the Buffalo Police Department after his Honorable Discharge from the United States Marine Corps / McParlane retired as a Lieutenant with the Buffalo Police and was also an Investigator for the NYSAG (New York State Attorney General) / After his retirement, McParlane moved to St. Petersburg, Florida / Michael McParlane was a member of the BPA (Police Benevolent Association), Police Emerald Society, Blackthorn Club, Gold Shield Association, Hopper's Social Club, Knights of Columbus, American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) / Michael Riley McParlane passed away at the age of 73 years old on 29 November 2022



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Name: **MCPARTLAN JR.**

JAMES

H.

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **NAVY**

Rank: **BM**

Year Entered: **1966**

Year Discharged: **1970**

Unit / Squadron:

USS BUTTE (AE-27)

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Boatswain's Mate James Hugh McPartlan Jr. served as a Fire Fighter

Base Assignments:

Naval Station, Norfolk, Virginia - Naval Station Norfolk, is a United States Navy base in Norfolk, Virginia / It supports naval forces in the United States Fleet Forces Command, those operating in the Atlantic Ocean, Mediterranean Sea, and the Indian Ocean / The installation occupies about 4 miles of waterfront space and 11 miles of pier and wharf space of the Hampton Roads peninsula known as Sewell's Point / It is the world's largest naval station, with the largest concentration of U.S. Navy forces through 75 ships alongside 14 piers and with 134 aircraft and 11 aircraft hangars at the adjacently operated Chambers Field / In 1968, the Naval Air Station was given a major role in John F. Kennedy's vision of putting a man on the moon / The air station became Recovery Control Center Atlantic, which provided command, control, and communications for the ships and aircraft that participated in the recovery operations of Apollo 7

Miscellaneous:

James H. McPartlan Jr. was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post 2940

The second USS Butte (AE-27) was a Kilauea-class ammunition ship in the United States Navy, commissioned on 14 December 1968 in the Boston Naval Shipyard and assigned to the U.S. Atlantic Fleet, originally homeported in Norfolk, Virginia / During the crisis in Jordan in 1970, Butte was awarded a Meritorious Unit Commendation for her peacekeeping role in that operation / From December 1972 to July 1973 she operated in the Tonkin Gulf and was awarded the Vietnam Service Medal with one battle star / Shortly after getting underway from Norfolk on 3 September 1974, Butte suffered a major fire in the main switchboard, disrupting all ship support electrical



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supply / She was towed back to the naval base for repairs which included replacing the switchboard / In September 1995, Butte began her last deployment as part of the USS America battlegroup / She spent October 1995 operating in the Adriatic Sea, supporting air strikes in Bosnia as part of Operation Deliberate Force / She was decommissioned on 3 June 1996 and placed in service with the Military Sealift Command, where she became USNS Butte (T-AE-27) / Like five of the six other ships of her class, she was overhauled upon the transfer: accommodations were improved, the main armament was taken out and she was outfitted for reduced civilian crewing / On 24 May 2004, she was stricken from the Naval Vessel Register and transferred to the NAVSEA Inactive Ships Maintenance Facility in Philadelphia awaiting disposal / On 3 July 2006, the ex USS Butte was sunk as a target off the east coast of the United States using Harpoon missiles, a Mark 48 torpedo fired from the USS San Juan and EOD explosives

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCTIGUE**

DAVID

J.

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David J. McTigue passed away on 20 August 2018



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCTIGUE**

ROBERT

F.

Hometown: TOWN OF TONAWANDA

Address:

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☒ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert F. McTigue passed away on 16 April 2023 and is interred at Elmlawn Memorial Park, Tonawanda, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MEISSNER**

KENITH

E.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: LT. COLONEL

Year Entered: 1955

Year Discharged: 1980

Unit / Squadron:

39TH SIGNAL BATTALION

221ST AVIATION COMPANY "SHOTGUNS"

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

☒ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Upon completion of Basic Training, Keith Meissner took helicopter mechanic training in 1955 at Gary Air Force Base, Texas and Fort Rucker, Alabama / Meissner applied for and was accepted a Regular Army appointment at West Point in 1956 / Meissner graduated from West Point in 1961 and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant / In 1964-1965, Lieutenant Meissner underwent Fixed Wing Pilot training, and received his Army Aviator wings in August 1965 / Meissner served two tours in Vietnam / In between tours, Meissner trained as an airman and flew spotter upon returning to Vietnam / Lt. Colonel Meissner's last command was as Manager, Command, Control, Communications Branch, Headquarters, U.S. Army Europe, Heidelberg, Germany

Base Assignments:

Fort Dix - Trenton, New Jersey - Fort Dix was established in 1917 and named for Major General John Adams Dix, a veteran of the War of 1812 and the Civil War / Dix served as a training and staging ground during World War II and a demobilization center after the war / Ten divisions and many smaller units trained and staged here before entering the battlefields of World War II / At the end of the war, the reception center became the separation center, returning more than 1.2 million Soldiers to civilian life

Gary Air Force Base -

Ft. Rucker, Alabama - Fort Rucker (Formerly Camp Rucker) is a U.S. Army post located primarily in Dale County, Alabama, United States / Opened on 1 May 1942, it was named for a Civil War officer, Confederate General Edmund Rucker / The post is the primary flight training installation for U.S. Army Aviators and is home to the United States Army Aviation Center of Excellence (USAACE) and the United States Army Aviation Museum /



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Camp Rucker was also used to train dozens of units of less than division size; these included tank, infantry replacement, and Women's Army Corps units / During the latter part of the Second World War, several hundred German and a few Italian prisoners-of-war were housed in stockades near the railroad east of the warehouse area, on the southern edge of the post / The 91st Infantry Division was sent to Camp Rucker at the end of the war, being deactivated in December 1945 / Camp Rucker was inactive from March 1946 until August 1950 / It was reopened during the Korean War / The name was changed to "Fort Rucker" in October 1955 / The 2021 National Defense Authorization Act calls for the establishment of an eight-person committee to develop a plan to remove all names, symbols, displays, and monuments that honor or commemorate the Confederacy from all Department of Defense assets, including Fort Rucker / In 2021, the Moore family started a petition to rename the fort in honor of Benjamin O. Davis Jr., the first black brigadier general in the USAF

Stewart Air Force Base -

West Point -

Fort Monmouth, New Jersey - Fort Monmouth is a former installation of the Department of the Army in Monmouth County, New Jersey / Originally called Camp Alfred Vail, in 1925 the Fort was renamed Fort Monmouth / It was named in honor of the soldiers of the American Revolutionary War who died in the Battle of Monmouth / At its peak during World War II, Fort Monmouth measured 1,713 acres and had billeting space for 1,559 officers and 19,786 enlisted personnel / The Eastern Signal Corps Training Center and other communication units, including the Pigeon Breeding and Training Center, were consolidated into Fort Monmouth after World War II ended / The pigeon service was discontinued in 1957; the birds were either sold at auction or donated to zoos / Slated by the Pentagon for closure, Fort Monmouth was officially closed on 15 September 2011

Fort Hood, Texas - Fort Hood is a United States Army post located near Killeen, Texas and was named after Confederate General John Bell Hood / The post is the headquarters of III Corps and First Army Division West and is home to the 1st Cavalry Division and 3rd Cavalry Regiment / During the late 1960s, Fort Hood trained and deployed a number of units and individuals for duty in Vietnam / As the United States ended its role in the conflict, thousands of returning soldiers completed their active duty with one of the divisions / In 1971, the colors of the 1st Cavalry Division came to Fort Hood from Vietnam / On May 24, 2022, the Commission on the Naming of Items of the Department of Defense that Commemorate the Confederate States of America or Any Person Who Served Voluntarily with the Confederate States of America recommended the fort be renamed to Fort Cavazos, named after Gen. Richard E. Cavazos, a native Texan and the US Army's first Hispanic four-star general

Lakehurst Naval Air Station, New Jersey -

Fort Ord & Hunter Liggett Military Reservation, CA -

Fort Leavenworth, Kansas -

U.S. Army Europe, Heidelberg, Germany.



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Miscellaneous:

Keith Meissner joined the Army at the age of 17 years after graduating from West Seneca West Senior High School / Meissner wrestled at West Point while training to be an officer / Meissner retired in July 1980 from the U.S. Army with an Honorable Discharge after 21 years of military duty, two years Enlisted Service and 19 years Commissioned Service / Upon retiring Keith Meissner moved to Saxonburg, Pennsylvania where he volunteered as an assistant wrestling coach at a Pennsylvania high school / In 2021, Keith Meissner donated \$55,000 to West Seneca West Senior High School to establish a wrestling scholarship



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MEJAK

ROBERT

F.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP-4

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1965

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY "B", 27TH MAINTENANCE BATTALION

36TH HEADQUARTERS, 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMAN BADGE: EXPERT (M-14 RIFLE)

MARKSMAN BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-14 RIFLE)

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Corporal (SP-4) Robert Francis Mejak served as an Auto Repairman / Cpl Mejak was stationed in Kimpo, Korea

Base Assignments:

Kimpo, Korea - Kimpo is a city in Gyeonggi Province, South Korea / The airport at Kimpo (Gimpo) was known as "K-14" Air Force Base during the Korean War / Sabre jets were based and operated from K-14 to "Mig Alley" located in the north western area of North Korea, and where air combat would take place with enemy Mig aircraft

Miscellaneous:

Robert F. Mejak was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post 2940

The 1st Cavalry Division ("First Team") is a combined arms division and is one of the most decorated combat divisions of the United States Army / It is based at Fort Hood, Texas. It was formed in 1921 and served during World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Persian Gulf War / In the Vietnam War, the division suffered more casualties than any other army division: 5,444 men killed in action and 26,592 wounded in action / The unit is unique in that it has served as a horseback cavalry division until 1943, an infantry division, an air assault division and an armored division during its existence

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S.



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Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

Name: **MELLENGER**

KARL

A.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-6

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1966

Unit / Squadron:

2ND BATTALION, 127TH ARMOR REGIMENT

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant Karl A. Mellenger served a total of 6 years in the US Army Artillery Branch and New York Army National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Karl Mellenger received his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army on 13 March 1966 / Mellenger was a member of the Patriot Guard Riders / Karl A. Mellenger passed away on 2 May 2020

The 127th Armor traces its origins as far back as 1838, to a company also known as the "Buffalo City Guards" / The 127th Tank Battalion (formed 1950) reorganized and redesignated as 127th Armor, a CARS parent regiment, on 16 March 1959 / The regiment then consisted of the 1st Medium Tank Battalion, an element of the 27th Armored Division (United States) / Circa 2005 the 1st Battalion was a tank unit of the 3rd Brigade, 42nd Infantry Division (United States) in Buffalo, NY



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MELLOTT**
DONALD E.

Hometown: AMHERST

Address:

- ☒ **Vietnam Era**
☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army, Donald Mellott worked for the railroad until his retirement / Donald E. Mellott passed away 31 August 2023 at the age of 78 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **METTY**

RAYMOND J

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

Address:

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

625TH SERVICE AND SUPPLY (S&S) COMPANY, 34TH GENERAL SUPPORT GROUP, 1ST CALVARY
DIVISION, USARV

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL
VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☒ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Raymond James Metty was deployed to Vietnam as a Laundry and Bath Specialist on 14 April 1966 / On 25 December 1966, PFC Matty attended Christmas midnight mass at a Vietnamese Church in An Khe, Binh Dinh Province / As he was leaving the church, PFC Metty was shot and killed by a sniper

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Raymond Metty was a Trucker prior to joining the Army / Raymond James Metty was 22 years old at the time of his death and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York

The 34th General Support Group (Aircraft Maintenance and Supply) was formed provisionally in November 1965 and was officially activated in January 1966 / It was given the responsibility of providing command and control of assigned and attached units performing the aircraft, avionics and air armament maintenance functions in the Republic of Vietnam / This mission included aircraft maintenance and supply support for all Free World Forces in Vietnam / The 34th Group rendered general support to all Army aircraft in Vietnam and provided back-up direct support to divisional units in-country, including the 101st Airborne, Americal, 4th Infantry, 25th Infantry, and the 1st Cavalry (Airmobile) as well as the 1st Aviation Brigade / In addition to meeting the needs of US Army aviation, 34th Group also provided logistical support to elements of the Royal Australian Air Force, Republic of



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Korea Air Force, Royal Thai Army, US. Navy, US. Air Force, and the US. Marines

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

The Presidential Unit Citation, originally called the Distinguished Unit Citation, is awarded to units of the United States Armed Forces for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after 7 December 1941

The Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Medal, also known as the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross or Vietnam Cross of Gallantry is a military decoration of the former Government of South Vietnam (Republic of Vietnam) / The medal was created on August 15, 1950 and was awarded to military personnel, civilians, and Armed Forces units and organizations in recognition of deeds of valor or heroic conduct while in combat with the enemy / Individuals who received the medal, ribbon, and a citation were personally cited at the Armed Forces, Corps, Division, Brigade or Regiment level / The United States military began authorizing the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross in March 1968 with retroactive presentation of the decoration to 1961

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The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MEYER, SR.

DAVID

M.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☐ Vietnam Era

☒ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1968

Unit / Squadron:

194TH MP COMPANY, US ARMY PACIFIC

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL W/2 SERVICE STARS

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: MARKSMAN (PISTOL)

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☒ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Sergeant David Michael Meyer, Sr. served 21 months in Vietnam from 1966 through 1968 as a member of the Military Police

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David Meyer, Sr. was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 26 November 1968 / Meyer went to work for CSX and retired 42 years later / David Meyer was a member of Vietnam Veterans Chapter 77, Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post 2940, American Legion Post 735, Amvets Post 897, a member of UTU #1393 and a Gold Star Father / David Michael Meyer, Sr. passed away on 13 January 2019

The Military Police Corps is the uniformed law enforcement branch of the United States Army / Investigations are conducted by Military Police Investigators under the Provost Marshall Office or Special Agents of the United States Army Criminal Investigation Division (USACID) / United States Army Military Police units have combat zone responsibilities in addition to their law enforcement duties / These responsibilities include mounted and dismounted patrols, response force operations, area damage control, route reconnaissance, cordon and search operations, critical site security, and convoy and personnel escorts / Operationally, these duties fall under the "security and mobility support" discipline of the Military Police Corps

The 19th Military Police (MP) Company was constituted 10 June 1943 in the Army of the United States as the



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194th Military Police Company / The 194th served in North Africa during World War II / The 194th MP Company served in Vietnam from May 1967 through June 1972, earning the Meritorious Unit Commendation

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The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MEYERS

ROY

L.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☐ Vietnam Era

☒ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: BT3

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1963

Unit / Squadron:

USS DUPONT (DD-941)

Medals / Citations:

☒ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Boilerman Petty Officer 3rd Class Roy Lewis Meyers served as a Boiler Repairman

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Roy Lewis Meyers was a Life Member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post 2940 / Roy Lewis Meyers passed away on 25 November 2018

USS Du Pont (DD-941) was a Forrest Sherman -class destroyer named for Rear Admiral Samuel Francis Du Pont USN (1803–1865) / Commissioned on 1 July 1957 / Du Pont's first Vietnam deployment began in August 1967 on the gun line in support of U.S. Marines fighting at the Demilitarized Zone / Under constant threat from enemy shore batteries, her gunners shelled enemy positions day and night / On 28 August 1967, the enemy fired on the destroyer Robison, which was between Du Pont and the beach / As Robison maneuvered to seaward, Du Pont returned fire, immediately replacing it as a target for some twenty 130 mm rounds / One shell found its target, hitting the Mount 52 gun / The burst sent shrapnel into the mount and down through the superstructure to the after deckhouse, killing FN Frank L. Ballant and wounding eight others / Despite the casualties to men and ship, Du Pont continued on station for another two weeks before heading for Subic Bay and repairs / Under fire once more when she returned to the gun line on 10 October, she successfully avoided being hit / On 10 November 1967, the eight men wounded on 28 August received Purple Heart medals, and two days later, the ship left for her last trip to the gun line / At the end of seventy-five days in combat, Du Pont's 5-inch guns had fired 20,000 rounds / Returning to Norfolk in January 1968, she went into dry dock for repairs followed by operations with the Apollo recovery force, exercises in the Caribbean, and midshipman training / The Du Pont was decommissioned on 4 March 1968 and sold for scrap on 10 February 1999



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MILITELLO

DAVID L.

Hometown: DERBY

Address:

☐ Vietnam Era

☒ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1965

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

HHC, 78TH SIGNAL BATTALION (CA)

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

2 OVERSEAS BARS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (M-14 RIFLE)

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☒ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Sergeant David Louis Militello served in Vietnam as a General Vehicle Repairman

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David L. Militello was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post 2940

The 78th Signal Battalion is a strategic Signal Battalion subordinate to the 516th Signal Brigade and headquartered at Camp Zama, Japan / The battalion mission is to provide and defend the Pacific LandWarNet and expeditionary communications capabilities as part of U.S. Army Pacific's Theater Information Grid, enabling mission command and information superiority

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The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in



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Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

An Overseas Service Bar indicates a soldier has served six months of service in a combat zone / Service Bars are cumulative, in that each bar worn indicates another six-month period / Time spent overseas is also cumulative, meaning one bar could be earned for two separate deployments totaling six months

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MILITELLO

MICHAEL

A.

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☐ Vietnam Era

☒ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1976

Year Discharged: 1982

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL W/1 STAR

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NAVY "E" RIBBON

NAVY MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☒ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael A. Militello passed away on 11 February 2023 at the age of 77 years old and is interred at St. Adalbert Cemetery, Lancaster, New York

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The Navy "E" Ribbon or Battle Efficiency Ribbon (informally the Battle "E" ribbon) was authorized on March 31, 1976, as a unit award for battle efficiency competition / The service ribbon replaced the "E" patch previously



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sewn on the right sleeve of the enlisted naval uniform for rates/pay grades E-1 through E-6 / The Navy "E" Ribbon denotes the wearer was on permanent duty aboard a U.S. Navy ship or in a unit that won a battle efficiency competition

The Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation (MUC) is a unit award of the United States Navy presented to U.S. Navy and Marine Corps units / The award is presented for service that is performed with character that would be comparable to the Bronze Star Medal / The Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation is awarded to any unit of the Navy or Marine Corps that has distinguished itself, under combat or non-combat conditions, by either valorous or meritorious achievement, which renders the unit outstanding compared to other units performing similar service, but not sufficient to justify award of the Navy Unit Commendation / To justify this award, the unit must have performed service of a character comparable to that which would merit the award of a Bronze Star Medal, or achievement of like caliber in a non-combat situation, to an individual / Additional awards are represented by wearing a Bronze Star device on the service ribbon

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February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MILLER**

ALFRED

J.

Hometown: CITY OF TONAWANDA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Alfred Miller was Honorably Discharged from the United States Air Force and went to work for General Motors Powertrain for 38 years until his retirement in 2006 / Alfred J. "Buddy" Miller passed away on 14 August 2023 at the age of 78 years old and is interred at Elmlawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MILLER**

DAVID

A.

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address:

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1970

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS & HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, QUARTERMASTER SERVICE BRIGADE

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL W/2 SERVICE STARS

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☒ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

David A. Miller was deployed to Vietnam for 12 months and served as a Memorial Activities Specialist assigned to a Mortuary Unit / Miller received an 18-month early release from active Army duty to join the 1st Battalion, 391st Regiment (CST), 98th Division Army National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David Miller was a member of the Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 77 / David A. Miller passed away on 15 April 2020 at the age of 71 years old

In United States Army units, a Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC) is a company-sized military unit, found at the battalion level and higher / Considered one unit, a Headquarters and Headquarters Company is essentially two elements within one company / In identifying a specific headquarters unit, it is usually referred to by its abbreviation as an HHC / While a regular line company is formed of three or four platoons, an HHC is made up of the headquarters staff and headquarters support personnel of a battalion, brigade, division, or higher level unit / The Headquarters and Headquarters Company provides command, staff, administrative, supply and maintenance, communication, engineer, and medical support for the battle group

The 391st Regiment was constituted 23 July 1918 in the National Army as the 391st Infantry and assigned to the 98th Division / Reorganized and redesignated 1 May 1959 as the 391st Regiment, an element of the 98th Division (Training), with Headquarters at Rochester, New York / Reorganized 19 October 2001 to consist of the



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1st, 2d, and 3d Battalions, elements of the 98th Division (Institutional Training) / The 391st Regiment participated in World War II serving in the Asiatic-Pacific Theater

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MILLER**

EDMUND

E.

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address:

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **ARMY**

Rank: **E-4**

Year Entered: **1967**

Year Discharged: **1971**

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY "B", 4TH BATTALION, 31ST INFANTRY, 196TH BRIGADE

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL W/DEVICE (1960)

**VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS W/PALM UNIT CITATION
BADGE**

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-14 RIFLE)

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

NATIONAL DEFENSE MEDAL

☒ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** **VIETNAM**

Service Notes:

Corporal Edmund Edward Miller served as a Light Weapons Infantrymen

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edmund Miller was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post 2940

Light Weapons Infantryman lack heavy weapons and armor or with a reduced vehicle footprint / Light infantry units lack the greater firepower, operational mobility and protection of mechanized or armored units, but possess greater tactical mobility and the ability to execute missions in severely restrictive terrain and in areas where weather makes vehicular mobility difficult / Light infantry forces typically rely on their ability to operate under restrictive conditions, surprise, violence of action, training, stealth, field craft, and fitness levels of the individual soldiers to compensate for their reduced lethality / Despite the usage of the term "light", forces in a light unit must carry everything they require to fight, survive and win due to lack of vehicles

The 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment (The Polar Bears) were constituted 1 July 1916 in the Regular Army as Company D, 31st Infantry / Surrendered 9 April 1942 to the Japanese 14th Army / Reorganized 19 January 1946 in Korea as an element of the 7th Infantry Division / Inactivated 1 July 1957 in Korea and relieved from



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assignment to the 7th Infantry Division / Redesignated 10 September 1965 as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry, assigned to the 196th Infantry Brigade, and activated at Fort Devens, Massachusetts / The Regiment participated in the Vietnam Tet Counteroffensive in 1968 / The 196th Infantry Brigade ("Chargers"), also known as the Charger Brigade was first formed on 24 June 1921 as part of the United States Army Reserve's 98th Division with the responsibility of training soldiers

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The Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Medal, also known as the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross or Vietnam Cross of Gallantry is a military decoration of the former Government of South Vietnam (Republic of Vietnam) / The medal was created on August 15, 1950 and was awarded to military personnel, civilians, and Armed Forces units and organizations in recognition of deeds of valor or heroic conduct while in combat with the enemy / Individuals who received the medal, ribbon, and a citation were personally cited at the Armed Forces, Corps, Division, Brigade or Regiment level / The United States military began authorizing the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross in March 1968 with retroactive presentation of the decoration to 1961 / Gallantry Cross with Palm: cited at the Armed Forces level

The Army Commendation Medal, created in 1945, is a mid-level United States military decoration presented for sustained acts of heroism or meritorious service / A "V" device distinguishes an award for heroism or valor in combat instead of for meritorious service or achievement

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The Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) is a United States Army military decoration awarded to infantrymen and Special Forces soldiers in the rank of colonel and below, who fought in active ground combat while assigned as members of either an Infantry or Special Forces unit of brigade size or smaller at any time after 6 December 1941



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MILLER**

LOUIS

E.

Hometown: SOUTH BUFFALO

Address:

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1969

Unit / Squadron:

1ST BATTALION, 18TH INFANTRY

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-14 RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE MEDAL

BRONZE STAR

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

AIR MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☒ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Specialist Louis E. Miller served in Vietnam and was awarded the Bronze Star for valor in combat and the Purple Heart Medal for wounds suffered on the battlefield

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Louis Miller was a graduate of South Park High School / Louis E. Miller passed away on 3 August 2023

The 1st Battalion of the 18th Infantry received the nickname Swamp Rats in 1966 when they fought in the salt water swamps in the Rung Sat Special Zone in the Delta Region of Vietnam

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously

The Bronze Star Medal (BSM) is a is the fourth-highest individual military award and the ninth-highest by order of precedence in the United States Armed Forces / The Bronze Star is awarded to members of the United States Armed Forces for either heroic achievement, heroic service, meritorious achievement, or meritorious service in a combat zone / When the medal is awarded by the Army and Air Force for acts of valor in combat, the "V" Device



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is authorized for wear on the medal

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The Air Medal (AM) is a military decoration of the United States Armed Forces / It was created in 1942 and is awarded for single acts of heroism or meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MINGLE**

HAROLD

H.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1964

Year Discharged: 1968

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (SMALL ARMS)

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Sergeant Harold H. "Harry" Mingle served in Texas and Hawaii where he performed installation, maintenance and instruction on teletype equipment

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Harold Mingle was Honorably Discharged from the United States Air Force on 19 March 1968 / Harold H. "Harry" Mingle passed away on 12 March 2018

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MIRANDA**
DOMINIC

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

- ☐ **Vietnam Era**
☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☒ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



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February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MISZTAL

ROBERT

S.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address: 88 BRADWOOD ROAD

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Misztal worked for the Ford Stamping Plant for 34 years before his retirement / Robert S. Misztal passed away on 7 November 2023 at the age of 76 years old and is interred at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MIZIAIEK**
GREGORY M.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

- ☐ Vietnam Era
☒ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SSGT

Year Entered: 1967

Year Discharged: 1969

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY "E", 2ND BATTALION, 1ST BRIGADE

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

BRONZE STAR W/DEVICE

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (PISTOL)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☒ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant Gregory Michael Miziaiek served as an Armor Crewman

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gregory M. Miziaiek was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post 2940

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MONIN**

FRANCIS

G.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address: 3407 CLINTON STREET

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS.

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1964

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

F COMPANY, 2ND BATTALION, 5TH MARINES, 1ST MARINE DIVISION (MARDIV)

USS ESSEX (CV-9)

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON

☒ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Corporal Francis G. Monin was Killed in Action on 5 July 1967, after getting hit by an enemy bullet while fighting near Quang Nam, South Vietnam / CPL Monin was a rifleman and had arrived for his tour duty in Vietnam a month prior to his death

Base Assignments:

Parris Island, South Carolina - Marine Corps Recruit Depot (MCRD) Parris Island is a Marine Corps. military installation located within Port Royal, South Carolina. MCRD Parris Island was established on 1 November 1915 and designated for the training of enlisted Marines. Male recruits living east of the Mississippi River and female recruits from all over the United States report to Parris Island to receive their initial training.

Miscellaneous:

Francis Monin was a 1964 graduate of West Seneca Central School and later that year, in November, enlisted in the Marine Corp.

Corporal Francis G. Monin was 20 years of age at the time of his death

The USS Essex (CV/CVA/CVS-9) was an aircraft carrier built for the United States Navy during World War II / She was the fourth US Navy ship to be named for Essex County, Massachusetts / Commissioned on 31 December 1942, the Essex participated in several campaigns in the Pacific Theater of Operations, earning the Presidential Unit



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Citation and 13 battle stars / Decommissioned shortly after the end of the war, she was modernized and recommissioned in the early 1950s as an attack carrier (CVA), and then eventually became an antisubmarine aircraft carrier (CVS) / In her second career she served mainly in the Atlantic, playing a role in the Cuban Missile Crisis. She also participated in the Korean War, earning four battle stars and the Navy Unit Commendation. She was the primary recovery carrier for the Apollo 7 space mission / The USS Essex was decommissioned on 30 June 1969 and sold for scrap in 1975



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MONTROY SR**

JAMES

N.

Hometown: SOUTH BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-6

Year Entered: 1962

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-1 RIFLE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (M-16)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (MACHINE GUN)

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant (E-6) James N. Montroy, Sr. served as a Cook and served 12 months of foreign service in the US Army Pacific, including Laos, Thailand and Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Montroy received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army on 18 July 1967 / James N. Montroy, Sr. passed away on 12 October 2023

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MORAN**
DAVID

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

- ☒ **Vietnam Era**
☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

David Moran was deployed to Japan and also was stationed in Las Vegas, Nevada

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Davie Moran passed away on 10 July 2017



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MORAN

JAMES

P.

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1963

Unit / Squadron:

595TH SIGNAL CORPS

Medals / Citations:

SHARPSHOOTER BADGE: RIFLE

MARKSMAN BADGE: M-1 RIFLE

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Sergeant James Patrick Moran was a Communications Center Operations Tel-Typewriter Operator

Base Assignments:

Fort Gordon, Georgia - Fort Gordon, formerly known as Camp Gordon, is a United States Army installation established in October 1941 / It is the home of the United States Army Signal Corps and United States Army Cyber Command / It is named after John Brown Gordon, a Major General in the Confederate States Army during the Civil War / The camp opened in July 1917, becoming a training site and home of the famous 82nd Division / From early 1946 to June 1947, the U.S. Army Disciplinary Barracks for convicted criminals was located at Camp Gordon, and the installation was scheduled for deactivation / In September 1948 the Army relocated the Military Police School from Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, to Camp Gordon, and in October 1948 a Signal Corps training center was activated / During the Vietnam War, Fort Gordon was home to Camp Crockett, an area of the post conducting 9-week advance airborne infantry training courses for soldiers in line to attend the remaining 3 weeks of Airborne training at Fort Benning, Georgia, and then be assigned to Airborne units in Vietnam / The location closed as the war ended / Between 1966 and 68, approximately 2,200 Signal Officers were trained at Fort Gordon's Signal Officer Candidate School (OCS), before all US Army branch OCSs were merged with the Infantry OCS at Fort Benning / Until 1974, Fort Gordon was also a training location for the Military Police Corps

Miscellaneous:

James P. Moran was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post 2940

The United States Army Signal Corps (USASC) is a branch of the United States Army that creates and manages communications and information systems for the command and control of combined arms forces and was



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established in 1860 / The Signal Corps only mission is to provide communications links between the Army units in their area of operations and other signal nodes in further areas served by other signal units / The first satellite terminal ever installed in a combat zone was installed in Ba Queo, near Saigon / From north to south, communicating across the varied landscapes of Vietnam presented a variety of challenges, from mountains to jungle / The answer came by utilizing the technology of "troposcatter" / A radio signal beamed up into the atmosphere is "bounced" back down to Earth with astonishingly good results, bypassing debilitating terrain / In January 1962, the system of troposcatter units were established under the operational name of BACKPORCH / The escalation of the number of troops in the Vietnam War caused an increasing need for more communications infrastructure / In the spring of 1966 the assorted Signal units were reassigned to the newly formed 1st Signal Brigade / By the close of 1968 this brigade consisted of six signal groups, and 22 signal battalions—roughly 23,000 soldiers / The first Vietnam War death on the battlefield was a Signal Corps radio operator

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MORAN

THOMAS

S.

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: E-3

Year Entered: 1974

Year Discharged: 1976

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS, 7TH MARINES, 1ST MARINE DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Lance Corporal Thomas "Bugsy" S. Moran served as an Anti-Tank Assault Man

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Moran was Honorably Discharged from the United States Marine Corps on 16 September 1976 / Thomas "Bugsy" S. Moran passed away on 25 March 2017

The 7th Marine Regiment is an infantry regiment of the United States Marine Corps based at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, California / Nicknamed the "Magnificent Seventh", the regiment falls under the command of the 1st Marine Division and the I Marine Expeditionary Force / The 7th Marine Regiment was formed in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on 14 August 1917 / From August 1917 through August 1919, the 7th Marine Regiment served in Cuba / On 17 August 1950, after the outbreak of the Korean War, the 7th Marines was reactivated as part of the 1st Marine Division / On 21 September 1950 the regiment landed at Inchon and took part in the recapture of Seoul on 7 October 1950, after 22 days of fighting / In 1965, the regiment was deployed to South Vietnam / While in service in Vietnam the 7th Marine regiment participated in the following military operations: Operation Starlite, Operation Piranha, Operation Harvest Moon, Operation Mallard, operations Texas and Indiana, Operation Golden Fleece 7-1, Operation Rio Blanco, Operation Shark, Operation Boone, Operation Duval, Operation Desoto, Operation Foster, Tet Offensive, Operation Allen Brook, Operation Mameluke Thrust, Operation Daring Endeavor, Operation Linn River, Operation Meade River, Operation Oklahoma Hills, Operation Taylor Common, Phase I of Operation Pipestone Canyon, the defense of Que Son, Operation Pickens Forest and Operation Imperial Lake / The last elements of 7th Marines departed the Republic



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of Vietnam 13 October 1970 / The 7th Regiment is charged with conducting mechanized, combined-arms operations and other expeditionary operations in order to support theater engagement plans and contingency operations / The regiment is prepared to deploy within 48-hours of the receipt of an execute order as either the ground combat element for the 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade (1st MEB) or as a major subordinate element of the 1st Marine Division / As directed, the regiment will prepare infantry battalions for deployment to the Pacific Command (PACOM AOR) in order to support III Marine Expeditionary Force (III MEF) operations and training

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February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MORRIS

GARY

N.

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1972

Year Discharged: 1974

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Gary N. Morris served as a Hawk Missile Crewman / PFC Morris was deployed to Germany for 8 months

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gary Morris was Honorably Discharged from the US. Army on 22 February 1974 / Gary N. Morris passed away on 23 September 2021

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MORRIS

MARK

A.

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: MM2

Year Entered: 1973

Year Discharged: 1977

Unit / Squadron:

U.S.S. HENDERSON DD-785

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON

NAVY GOOD CONDUCT

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Naval Support Activity (NAVSUPPACT), Long Beach, California - Beginning in 1938, the Navy occupied the Long Beach Naval Complex on the south side of Terminal Island in Long Beach and Los Angeles under various functions and missions / The complex covered approximately 1,095 acres of land and harbor areas that included two naval activities: the Naval Station and the Naval Shipyard / The Naval Station was established on 15 November 1946, as a homeport for Pacific Fleet ships, providing port facilities, fleet support personnel, and recreational facilities / The Long Beach Naval Shipyard was established in February 1943 as a facility to repair and refit Navy ships / The Naval Station was closed on 30 September 1994 and the Naval Shipyard was closed on 30 September 1997

Miscellaneous:

Mark Morris graduated from Bishop Neumann High School in 1973 prior to entering military service / After receiving his Honorable Discharge from the Navy, Morris went to work at the Erie County Medical Center (ECMC) as a Pipefitter. Later he was promoted to Chief Stationary Engineer and held that position until his retirement in June 2013 / In 1989, Mark Morris enlisted in the U. S. Naval Reserves joining the Seabees / Morris served with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 13 (NMCB13) and Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 21 (NMCB21) / Mark A. Morris retired from the Seabees in 2004 with the rank of Chief Petty Officer (CPO)

The USS Henderson (DD-785) was a Gearing-class destroyer of the United States Navy, the second Navy ship of that name, and the first named for United States Marine Corps Major Lofton R. Henderson / The Henderson was commissioned on 4 August 1945 in Seattle, Washington / During the Korean Conflict, the Henderson supported



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the American assault into Inchon Bay, Korea during September 1950 by destroying mines and bombarding the Inchon waterfront preparatory to the invasion / The USS Henderson received 8 Battle Stars for her service during the Korean Conflict and shared in the Navy Unit Commendation given her task unit for its part in the Inchon landings / In January 1967, during the Vietnam Conflict, the Henderson was sent to Vietnam for four months to support attack carrier operations and conduct shore bombardment assignments / In April 1968, the Henderson returned to Vietnam to conduct shore bombardments and escort duties in the South China Sea until September 1968 / During her service in Southeast Asia, the Henderson received seven Battle Stars for her support during the Vietnam Conflict / In 1973, following her Vietnam assignment, the USS Henderson spent the next six years conducting reserve training operations out of Long Beach. The destroyer spent the majority of her time sailing in local operating areas, though the warship also conducted reserve unit training cruises to Pearl Harbor or the Pacific Northwest on an annual basis / The USS Henderson (DD-785) was decommissioned on 30 September 1980



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MULLEN**

DENNIS

C.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1971

Unit / Squadron:

609TH TRANSPORTATION COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

BRONZE STAR MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL W/3 BRONZE STARS

EXPERT BADGE: M-16 RIFLE

2 OVERSEAS BARS

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL W/1960 DEVICE

EXPERT BADGE: M-14 RIFLE

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☒ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Corporal (E-4) Dennis Clarence Mullen was awarded the Bronze Star for his heroism under fire during combat operations

Base Assignments:

Ft. Benning, Georgia - Fort Benning is a United States Army post straddling the Alabama–Georgia border next to Columbus, Georgia and is named after Henry L. Benning, a brigadier general in the Confederate States Army during the Civil War/ Fort Benning supports more than 120,000 active-duty military, family members, reserve component soldiers, retirees and civilian employees on a daily basis / Since 1909, Fort Benning has served as the Home of the Infantry / Fort Benning is one of ten U.S. Army installations named for former Confederate generals / The congressionally mandated Naming Commission has recommended it be renamed Fort Moore after Lieutenant General Hal and Julia Moore

Miscellaneous:

Dennis C. Mullen was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post 2940

The 609th Transportation Company was constituted 27 September 1966 in the Regular Army as the 609th Transportation Detachment the Company received many Meritorious Unit Commendations

The Bronze Star Medal (BSM) is a is the fourth-highest individual military award and the ninth-highest by order



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of precedence in the United States Armed Forces / The Bronze Star is awarded to members of the United States Armed Forces for either heroic achievement, heroic service, meritorious achievement, or meritorious service in a combat zone

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

An Overseas Service Bar indicates a soldier has served six months of service in a combat zone / Service Bars are cumulative, in that each bar worn indicates another six-month period / Time spent overseas is also cumulative, meaning one bar could be earned for two separate deployments totaling six months



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MUNDT**

DAVID J.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1964

Year Discharged: 1968

Unit / Squadron:

605TH MAINTENANCE COMPANY (LE) GENERAL STAFF (GS)

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

SHARPSHOOTER BADGE: M-14 RIFLE

SHARPSHOOTER BADGE: M-1 RIFLE

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☒ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Sergeant David James Mundt served as a Special Electronic Device Repairman

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MURAWSKI**

MICHAEL

D.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS BATTALION, 18TH ARTILLERY GROUP (AIR DEFENSE), ARMY AIR DEFENSE
COMMAND

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-14 RIFLE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-16 RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class Michael David Murawski served in the Army Air Defense Artillery Branch as a Light Vehicle Driver

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael Murawski was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 12 March 1970 / Michael David Murawski passed away on 11 November 2023

The Air Defense Artillery Branch is the branch of the United States Army that specializes in anti-aircraft weapons (such as surface to air missiles) / In the U.S. Army, these groups are composed of mainly air defense systems such as the Patriot Missile System, Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD), and the Avenger Air Defense system which fires the FIM-92 Stinger missile / The Air Defense Artillery branch descended from Anti-Aircraft Artillery (part of the U.S. Army Coast Artillery Corps until 1950, then part of the Artillery Branch) into a separate branch on 20 June 1968 / The mission of Air Defense Artillery is to protect the force and selected geopolitical assets from aerial attack, missile attack, and surveillance

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S.



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Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

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The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



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February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MURPHY

MICHAEL N.

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

Address:

☐ Vietnam Era

☒ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: O-2

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: 1971

Unit / Squadron:

16TH AVIATION GROUP, 23RD INFANTRY

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

☒ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

First Lieutenant Michael Newton Murphy served as a Field Artillery Unit Commander

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael N. Murphy attended college prior to military service earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in Economics / Michael Murphy was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post 2940

The 16th Combat Aviation Group was formed in Battle on 23 January 1968 and thus it's motto "Born In Battle" / The Group was activated at Marble Mountain, Da Nang in I Corps / The 16th Aviation Group was awarded the Valorous Unit Award for their actions on 11 to 31 August 1969 / 23rd Infantry Division (AMERICAL) was reactivated on 25 September 1967 / The Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MACV) preferred the name AMERICAL, listed it as such in numerous official orders, called it "the Army's only named division on active service," and used the vehicle bumper abbreviation AMCAL / In Vietnam the rugged terrain of southern I Corps tactical zone was used by the division for its encampment at Chu Lai / This ran the gamut from marshy, coastal lowlands to triple-canopy jungle on steep mountain slopes / The AMERICAL Division battled the strong enemy influence in both Quang Nam and Quang Tri Provinces 11 Nov 67 - 11 Nov 68 in Operation WHEELER/WALLOWA with two of its brigades / Another brigade was sent to Quang Ngai Province in early 1968 / During 1969 and 1970 the division continued to fight in the Duc Pho, Chuy Lai and Tam Ky areas along the coast / In November 1971 the division was deactivated / The 23rd Infantry Division (AMERICAL) served a total of 1,526 days in Vietnam



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The Army Commendation Medal, created in 1945, is a mid-level United States military decoration presented for sustained acts of heroism or meritorious service