

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

Name: John Sidney McCain III

Commissioning Date: 04 June 1958

Retirement Date: 01 April 1981

Rank/Dates of Rank:

Captain	01 August 1979
Commander	01 July 1973
Lieutenant Commander	01 January 1967
Lieutenant	01 June 1962
Lieutenant Junior Grade	04 December 1959
Ensign	04 June 1958

Designator: Pilot

<u>Service Dates/Assignments:</u>	<u>Arrived</u>	<u>Detached</u>
U.S. Naval Academy	June '54	June '58
Naval Air Basic Training, NAS Pensacola, Fla.	Aug. '58	Sept. '59
NAS Corpus Christi, TX	Sept. '59	May '60
Attack Squadron FORTY TWO (VA-42)	June '60	Nov. '60
VA-65	Nov. '60	Oct. '63
Naval Air Basic Training, NAS Pensacola, Fla.	Nov. '63	Sept. '64
Training Squadron (VT) SEVEN, NAS Meridian, Miss.	Sept. '64	Oct. '66
VA-44, NAS Cecil Field, FL	Oct. '66	Apr. '67
VA-46	May '67	Sept. '67
VA-163	Oct. '67	Oct. '67
POW, Hanoi, North Vietnam	Oct. '67	Mar. '73
Naval Regional Medical Center, Jacksonville, Fla.	Mar. '73	Jul. '73
National War College, Washington, D.C.	Jul. '73	Jun. '74
VA-174	Aug. '74	Jul. '77
Office of Legislative Affairs, Washington, D.C.	Jul. '77	Mar. '81

Awards and Decorations:

Silver Star Medal
Legion of Merit w/Combat 'V' and one gold star
Distinguished Flying Cross
Bronze Star Medal w/Combat 'V' and two gold stars
Purple Heart w/one gold star
Meritorious Service Medal
Air Medal w/one bronze star and Numeral "2"
Navy Commendation Medal w/Combat 'V' and one gold star
Combat Action Ribbon

Awards and Decorations (continued):

Navy Unit Commendation

Meritorious Unit Commendation

POW Medal

National Defense Service Medal

Vietnam Service Medal w/two bronze stars

Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (Cuba)

Navy Expeditionary Medal (Cuba)

Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal w/device

0073



THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
WASHINGTON

The Secretary of the Navy takes pleasure in presenting the
NAVY COMMENDATION MEDAL to

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER JOHN S. MC CAIN III
UNITED STATES NAVY

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

For meritorious achievement in aerial flight on 18 October 1967 as a pilot in Attack Squadron ONE HUNDRED SIXTY-THREE, embarked in USS ORISKANY (CVA-34). As section leader, Lieutenant Commander McCain participated in a twenty-two-plane strike against the Lac Trai shipyard and repair facility in Haiphong, North Vietnam. Although violent evasive maneuvers were required to avoid enemy surface-to-air missiles and an intense barrage of anti-aircraft fire along the flight path to the target, he maintained flight integrity and expertly positioned his section for attack. In the face of heavy enemy fire, he led his section in the attack and placed his bombs directly on target, thereby inflicting major damage to his assigned area. By his aggressiveness and skillful airmanship, Lieutenant Commander McCain contributed substantially to the success of the mission and upheld the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

The Combat Distinguishing Device is authorized.

John W. Warner
Secretary of the Navy

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0100



THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

WASHINGTON D C 20350

The Secretary of the Navy takes pleasure in presenting the
NAVY COMMENDATION MEDAL (Gold Star in lieu of the Second Award) to

COMMANDER JOHN S. MC CAIN III
UNITED STATES NAVY

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

For meritorious service during the period 1968 to 1970 while interned as a Prisoner of War in North Vietnam. During his years of confinement in the Prison Camp Plantation, he served as an example of inspirational leadership and as a source of aggressive motivation to those associated with him. Although crippled from serious and ill-treated injuries, he steadfastly refused a "no commitment" release to freedom offered by his captors. His selfless action served as an example to others and his forthright refusal, by giving emphasis to the insidious nature of such releases, may have prevented a possibly chaotic deterioration in prisoner discipline. His singularly distinctive accomplishments and devotion to duty reflected credit upon himself and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Naval Service and the United States Armed Forces.

The Combat Distinguishing Device is authorized.

Secretary of the Navy

THIS DOCUMENT IS AVAILABLE

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THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
WASHINGTON

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting
the AIR MEDAL (First and Second Strike/Flight Awards) to

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER JOHN S. MC CAIN III
UNITED STATES NAVY

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

For meritorious achievement in aerial flight as a pilot in
Attack Squadron ONE HUNDRED SIXTY-THREE, embarked in
USS ORISKANY (CVA-34), during missions in support of com-
bat operations in Southeast Asia against the insurgent communist
guerrilla forces from 25 July to 21 October 1967. In the success-
ful completion of these missions, Lieutenant Commander McCain
contributed materially to the success of United States efforts in
Southeast Asia. His skill, courage, and devotion to duty in the
face of hazardous flying conditions were in keeping with the high-
est traditions of the United States Naval Service.

The Numeral "2" to represent Two Strike/Flight Awards is authorized.

For the President,

Secretary of the Navy

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THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
WASHINGTON

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting
the AIR MEDAL (Bronze Star in lieu of the First Award) to

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER JOHN S. MC CAIN III
UNITED STATES NAVY

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

For meritorious achievement in aerial flight on 25 October 1967 as a pilot in Attack Squadron ONE HUNDRED SIXTY-THREE, embarked in USS ORISKANY (GVA-34). Lieutenant Commander McCain participated in a mission against the enemy's largest and best defended airfield, Phuc Yen, located eleven miles north of Hanoi, North Vietnam. Encountering intense antiaircraft fire while en route to the target, and a barrage of eight-to-ten surface-to-air missiles at the initial attack position, he evaded the lethal air defenses and carried out a precise attack against his assigned aim point. His accurate ordnance delivery left one aircraft burning and two others severely damaged. Lieutenant Commander McCain's courage and aggressive airmanship in the face of massed enemy air defenses were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

For the President,

Secretary of the Navy

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0154

S-2

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20370

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting
the DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS to

COMMANDER JOHN S. MC CAIN III
UNITED STATES NAVY

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

For heroism while participating in aerial flight on 26 October 1967 in North-Vietnam. While attacking the thermal power plant in Hanot, Commander (then Lieutenant Commander) McCain, despite extremely heavy and accurate antiaircraft fire and more than fifteen surface-to-air missiles in the air, pursued the attack until his aircraft was hit by enemy antiaircraft fire. Although his aircraft was severely damaged, he continued his bomb delivery pass and released his bombs on the target. When the aircraft would not recover from the dive, Commander McCain was forced to eject over the target. By his exceptional courage, superb airmanship, and total devotion to duty, Commander McCain reflected great credit upon himself and upheld the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

For the President,

William M. Middendorf
Secretary of the Navy

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THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

WASHINGTON D C 20350

S. M.

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting
the SILVER STAR MEDAL to

COMMANDER JOHN S. MC CAIN III
UNITED STATES NAVY

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity while interned as a Prisoner of War in North Vietnam from 27 October to 8 December 1967. His captors, completely ignoring international agreements, subjected him to extreme mental and physical cruelties in an attempt to obtain military information and false confessions for propaganda purposes. Through his resistance to those brutalities, he contributed significantly toward the eventual abandonment of harsh treatment by the North Vietnamese, which was attracting international attention. By his determination, courage, resourcefulness, and devotion to duty, he reflected great credit upon himself and upheld the highest traditions of the Naval Service and the United States Armed Forces.

For the President,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "William M. Middendorf".

Secretary of the Navy
Signed at Naval Air Station, Cubi Point,
Republic of the Philippines

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FINISH FILE, PERS-P53

(b) (6)
-500



THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

WASHINGTON D C 20350

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Gold Star in lieu of the Third Award) to

COMMANDER JOHN S. MC CAIN III
UNITED STATES NAVY

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

For meritorious service while interned as a Prisoner of War in North Vietnam from December 1969 to January 1973. During this period, although under constant surveillance from his captors, he performed duties involving highly classified material in an exemplary and professional manner. Through his zealously and ingenuity, he generated new ideas and improvised techniques greatly enhancing covert operations. Although in a hostile environment, he never wavered in his devotion and loyalty to the United States and his fellow prisoners. By his inspiring courage, exceptional skill, and resourcefulness, he reflected great credit upon himself and upheld the highest traditions of the Naval Service and the United States Armed Forces.

The Combat Distinguishing Device is authorized.

For the President,

Secretary of the Navy

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THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

WASHINGTON, D C 20350

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Gold Star in lieu of the Second Award) to

COMMANDER JOHN S. MC CAIN III
UNITED STATES NAVY

for service as set forth in the following.

CITATION:

For meritorious service as a Prisoner of War in North Vietnam from February to June 1970 and from February to October 1972. Through his ceaseless efforts, in an atmosphere of enemy harassment, threat of torture and brutal treatment, he established and maintained intracamp communications. At great risk and in spite of further cruelty, he continued to devise many unusual and ingenious methods in communications, resulting in American and Allied prisoners resisting the enemy's demands and at the same time improving the prisoners morale. By his heroic endeavors, exceptional skill, and devotion to duty, he reflected great credit upon himself and upheld the highest traditions of the Naval Service and the United States Armed Forces.

The Combat Distinguishing Device is authorized.

For the President,

William P. Lawrence
Secretary of the Navy

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FINISH FILE PERS-P53

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THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

WASHINGTON D C 20350

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the BRONZE STAR MEDAL to

COMMANDER JOHN S. MC CAIN III
UNITED STATES NAVY

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

For heroic achievement while serving as a Prisoner of War in North Vietnam during a period in 1968. Under constant pressure from North Vietnamese interrogators and guards, he experienced harassment, intimidation and ruthless treatment in their attempt to gain military information and cooperative participation for propaganda purposes. He heroically resisted their routine cruelties and never wavered in his devotion and loyalty to the United States. These actions served to inspire and improve the morale of his fellow prisoners in the camp. Displaying extraordinary courage, resourcefulness, and devotion to duty, he reflected great credit upon himself and upheld the highest traditions of the Naval Service and the United States Armed Forces.

The Combat Distinguishing Device is authorized.

For the President,

Secretary of the Navy

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THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

WASHINGTON D.C. 20350

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the LEGION OF MERIT to

CAPTAIN JOHN S. MC CAIN III
UNITED STATES NAVY

[(b) (6) SSN]

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service as Director of the Senate Liaison Office of the Office of Legislative Affairs from August 1977 to March 1981.

Captain McCain's unique talents, exceptional knowledge of politico-military matters, and keen and unusually perceptive insights into the interests and relationships between key members of the Congress provided Navy leadership with sage advice and sound judgment for enacting critical legislation during a period of severe fiscal constraint. His performance in this sensitive and critical position contributed directly and significantly to the success of Navy programs before the Congress, ensuring both readiness and modernization of the fleet.

Captain McCain's outstanding professional leadership, perseverance, and inspiring devotion to duty reflected great credit upon himself and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

For the President, MAR 16 1981

Secretary of the Navy

For file in SUPERS
Record Op-09819

Approved SECNAV(NDBEM) Ser 180 of 16 Mar 1981.

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0171



THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20350

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting
the LEGION OF MERIT to

COMMANDER JOHN S. MC CAIN III
UNITED STATES NAVY

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service as a Prisoner of War in North Vietnam from October 1967 to March 1973. Under the most adverse of conditions, he resisted all attempts by the North Vietnamese to use him in causes detrimental to the United States; never wavering in his devotion and loyalty to the United States. In an outstanding and tireless fashion, he served as Chaplain wherein he provided spiritual guidance, instilled constructive rehabilitative thinking and conducted religious services for the benefit of the other prisoners during their long internment. In addition, he served as an educator to provide diversion and constructive rehabilitative thinking to his fellow prisoners. Despite the lack of material aids, he devoted long hours toward improving their morale and well-being. His extraordinary skill, resourcefulness, and dedication to duty throughout this lengthy confinement reflected great credit upon himself and upheld the highest traditions of the Naval Service and the United States Armed Forces.

The Combat Distinguishing Device is authorized.

For the President,

Secretary of the Navy

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(b)(6)
SSN

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the

MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL to

COMMANDER JOHN S. MC CAIN, III

UNITED STATES NAVY

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

For outstanding meritorious service from 1 July 1976 to 28 July 1977 while serving as Commanding Officer, Attack Squadron ONE SEVENTY-FOUR. Commander MC CAIN displayed superb leadership, planning ability, and professional competence in maintaining the Squadron at maximum readiness and in successfully accomplishing its mission. His aggressive involvement in safety awareness and expertise in training personnel resulted in the first accident-free year ever enjoyed by the Squadron, with a record of over 17,500 safe hours. His precise monitoring of supply support procedures and diligent efforts in acquiring spare aircraft parts not only increased aircraft availability but also eliminated special interest aircraft from the replacement squadron inventory. He initiated many innovative programs which improved the quality of training provided to Fleet Readiness and Aviation Maintenance Personnel of the Squadron. In addition, his positive endeavors to promote Human Resources Development programs greatly improved the levels of morale and motivation within the Squadron. Commander MC CAIN's distinctive accomplishments and impressive devotion to duty uphold the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

For the President

L. C. KIDD, JR.
Admiral, U. S. Navy
Commander in Chief U. S. Atlantic Fleet

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04



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20370

IN REPLY REFER TO
NMC-03X/PERS-384-AT:chs
7:310
1 MARCH 1979

From: Chief of Naval Personnel
To: CDR John S. MCCAIN, USN

Via:

Subj: Awards; information concerning

Ref: (a)

Encl: (1) - Four personal decorations, numeral 2, one Combat "V", four medals, and two bronze stars

1. An adjudication of your entitlement to certain awards has been made in response to reference (a). This adjudication encompassed (X) all awards to which you are entitled: () only those awards indicated in reference (a).

PERSONAL DECORATIONS	ELI-SIBLE	FWD	SEE NOTE	CAMPAIGN AND SERVICE MEDALS	ELI-SIBLE	FWD	SEE NOTE
Meritorious Service Medal	X			AMERICAN DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL FLEET CLASP BASE CLASP			
Air Medal w/ 2 Stripes Flight awards	X			AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL			
Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V"	X			EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL			
Combat Action Ribbon	X			ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN MEDAL			
				WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL			
				NAVY OCCUPATION SERVICE MEDAL ASIA CLASP EUROPE CLASP			
				CHINA SERVICE MEDAL			
				NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL	X		
OTHER AWARDS				KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL			
NAVY RESERVE MEDAL				UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL			
ARMED FORCES RESERVE MEDAL				VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL	X		
				AF EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL (chs)	X		
				2 1/2 BRONZE STARS Navy Expeditionary Medal (chs)	X		
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By direction



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVAL MILITARY PERSONNEL COMMAND
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20370

454

(b) (6)
557
IN REPLY REFER TO
NMPC-036e -PSE:lh
1310
12 March 1981

From: Commander, Naval Military Personnel Command
To: CAPT John S. MCCAIN III, USN

Via:

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Subj: Awards; information concerning

Ref: (a)

Encl: (1)

1. An adjudication of your entitlement to certain awards has been made in response to reference (a). This adjudication encompassed (X) all awards to which you are entitled: () only those awards indicated in reference (a).

PERSONAL DECORATIONS	ELI-GIBLE	PWD	SEE NOTE	CAMPAIGN AND SERVICE MEDALS	ELI-GIBLE	PWD	SEE NOTE
Silver Star Medal	X			NAVY OCCUPATION SERVICE MEDAL			
Distinguished Flying Cross	X			ASIA CLASP			
Legion of Merit w/Combat "V"	X			EUROPE CLASP			
Meritorious Service Medal	X			CHINA SERVICE MEDAL			
Purple Heart Medal w/1 Gold Star	X			NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL *	X		
Air Medal w/1 Bronze Star & Numeral "2"	X			KOREA SERVICE MEDAL			
				UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL			
				VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL w/2 stars	X		
				EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL (Cuba)	X		
				HUMANITARIAN SERVICE MEDAL			
				(w/1 star)			
				Navy Expeditionary Medal (Cuba)	X		
				Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal w/Device (1960-1973)	X		
OTHER AWARDS							
NAVAL RESERVE MEDAL							
MUC awarded Attack Squadron 174	X						
NUC awarded USS ORISKANY (CVA-34)	X						
Combat Action Ribbon	X						

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(See Reverse Side)

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456 DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVAL MILITARY PERSONNEL COMMAND
WASHINGTON DC 20370

(b)(6)
SSN [] IN REPLY REFER TO
NMPC-036e -PSE:ln
71310
12 March 1981

From: Commander, Naval Military Personnel Command
To: CAPT John S. MCCAIN III, USN

Via:

Subj: Awards; information concerning

Ref: (a)

Encl: (1)

1. An adjudication of your entitlement to certain awards has been made in response to reference (a). This adjudication encompassed (X) all awards to which you are entitled: () only those awards indicated in reference (a).

PERSONAL DECORATIONS	ELI- SIBLE	FWD	SEE NOTE	CAMPAIGN AND SERVICE MEDALS	ELI- SIBLE	FWD	SEE NOTE
Navy Commendation Medal w/Combat "V" 1 Gold Star w/Combat "V"	X			NAVY OCCUPATION SERVICE MEDAL ASIA CLASP EUROPE CLASP			
Bronze Star Medal w/Combat "V" & 2 Gold Stars w/2 Combat "V"s	X			CHINA SERVICE MEDAL			
				NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL			
				KOREA SERVICE MEDAL			
				UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL			
				VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL			
				AF EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL			
				HUMANITARIAN SERVICE MEDAL			
OTHER AWARDS							
NAVAL RESERVE MEDAL							

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* Indicates bronze stars being forwarded

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By direction
(2)



076

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20370

IN REPLY REFER TO
1975-516
-DND:as
1310
11 December 1974

(6)
55

From: Chief of Naval Personnel
To: CDR John S. McCain, III, USN

Via: Commanding Officer
Attack Squadron 174
Naval Air Station
Cecil Field, Florida 32215

Subj: Awards; information concerning

Ref: (a)
CO, Attack Squadron 174 ltr of 25 Sep 74

Encl: (1)

One medal
1. An adjudication of your entitlement to certain awards has been made in response to reference (a). This adjudication encompassed () all awards to which you are entitled: () only those awards indicated in reference (a).

PERSONAL DECORATIONS	ELI- GIBLE	FWD	SEE NOTE	CAMPAIGN AND SERVICE MEDALS	ELI- GIBLE	FWD	SEE NOTE
Navy Commendation Medal	X	X		AMERICAN DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL			
				FLEET CLASP			
				BASE CLASP			
				AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL			
				EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL			
				ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN MEDAL			
				WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL			
				NAVY OCCUPATION SERVICE MEDAL			
				ASIA CLASP			
				EUROPE CLASP			
OTHER AWARDS				CHINA SERVICE MEDAL			
				NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL			
				KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL			
				UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL			
NAVAL RESERVE MEDAL				VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL			
ARMED FORCES RESERVE MEDAL				AF EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL			
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By direction



0009

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20370

IN REPLY REFER TO
Pers-E2ALLJ-vjg
/1310
10 June 1966

From: Chief of Naval Personnel
To: LT John S. MCCAIN, III, USN

Via: Commanding Officer
Training Squadron SEVEN
U. S. Naval Auxiliary Air Station
Meridian, Mississippi

Subj: Awards; information concerning

Ref: (a) EO, Training Squadron SEVEN ltr of 18 May 1966
(b) SECNAVNOTE 1650 of 23 Mar 1966

Encl: (1)

1. An adjudication of your entitlement to certain awards has been made in response to reference (a). This adjudication encompassed () all awards to which you are entitled; () only those awards indicated in reference (a).

PERSONAL DECORATIONS	ELI-GIBLE	FWD.	SEE NOTE	CAMPAIGN AND SERVICE MEDALS	ELI-GIBLE	FWD.	SEE NOTE
				AMERICAN DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL Fleet Class Base Class			
				AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL			
				EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL			
				ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN MEDAL			
				WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL			
				NAVY OCCUPATION SERVICE MEDAL Asia Class Europe Class			
				CHINA SERVICE MEDAL			
				NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL			
				KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL			
				UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL			
				OTHER AWARDS			
NAVAL RESERVE MEDAL							
ARMED FORCES RESERVE MEDAL				Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (Cuba)	X		
				Navy Expeditionary Medal (Cuba)	X		

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