



REGISTERED PHOTOGRAPH BY LARRY NEIBERGALL

A Hero and His Medals

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Lt. Col. Jack O. Johnson, 36, who recently returned from a tour of duty in Vietnam as an Army helicopter pilot, displays some of his more than 47 medals. At left, top to bottom, are: The Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Purple Heart, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, unit insignia, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry and his wings. The other two medals are the Silver Star and Soldier's Medal. Colonel Johnson makes his home at

Victory in Vietnam Seen By Pilot With 47 Medals

By Nick Lamberto

If Lt. Col. Jack O. Johnson ever wears all of his medals at the same time, he'll definitely walk with a list to the left or port side.

Johnson, 36-year-old Des Moines helicopter pilot, has more than 47 medals. He and his wife, Nancy, 36, were both graduated from East High School here. They have a two-year-old daughter, Susan, 2.

Service medals are worn on the left side of a soldier's blouse.

"We're Winning"

Relaxing at his home at 3813 Marlanna Trail, Johnson Thursday told about how he thinks the war is going. His second tour ended Sept. 10.

"We're definitely winning," he said. "It's still a tough, dirty, day-to-day grind. Nothing gentle and nothing classic. No lines are drawn and no big decisive battles in the classic sense."

But we're progressing and I think we'll emerge victorious. It may be a negotiated peace or settlement, but we'll win. The

Johnson has about 1,500 hours of helicopter pilot time and 1,500 hours in fixed-wing aircraft. He is a senior pilot and will be a command pilot when he has 15 years in service as a rated pilot.

To Washington

Mrs. Johnson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Howell, live at 2615 Thirty-fourth St. Johnson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. George M. Johnson, live at 4000 University Ave.

After 30 days leave, Johnson will report to Washington, D.C., for assignment as Army deputy chief of staff for personnel at the Pentagon.

Johnson, shooting for 20 years

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