

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Headquarters 101st Airborne Division
APO San Francisco 96303

9 September 1968

SECTION I

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR MEDAL

1. TO 32C. The following AWARD is announced.

JOHNSON, JACK O 077484 ([REDACTED]), LIEUTENANT COLONEL ARTILLERY Headquarters and Headquarters Company 159th Assault Support Helicopter Battalion APO San Francisco 96303

Awarded: The Silver Star Medal

Effective Month: September 1968

Date action: 27 March 1968

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For gallantry in action while engaged in military operations against an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Lieutenant Colonel (then Major) Johnson distinguished himself on 27 March 1968 while serving as Aircraft Commander for the 1st Battalion, 501st Infantry command and control aircraft during the conduct of a search and destroy operation in the Hue area, Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. Company D was engaged in heavy contact with an enemy force in which friendly casualties were two killed and seventeen wounded. Company D had become pinned down by intensive hostile rocket, machine gun, and mortar fire. Lieutenant Colonel Johnson repeatedly flew the command and control aircraft at low level over the combat area to spot the enemy weapons positions. Lieutenant Colonel Johnson's aircraft repeatedly encountered heavy fire over the objective area. Despite continued hostile fire, the command and control ship fired suppressive machine gun fire at the enemy, killing four. The fire from the door guns greatly relieved the pressure on the beleaguered D Company. His continual low passes enabled the command group to locate the hostile gun positions and neutralize them. Lieutenant Colonel Johnson's precise decisions while piloting a heavily loaded aircraft, skillful flying through heavy enemy fire, exceptionally valorous actions, and personal valor contributed immeasurably to the completion of a difficult mission and prevented the further loss of life. Lieutenant Colonel Johnson's actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President of the United States under the provisions of the Act of Congress established 9 July 1918.

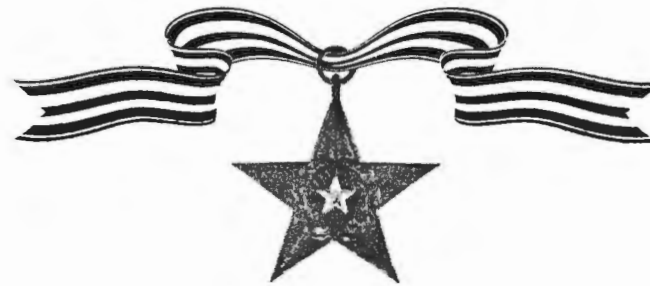
C I T A T I O N

BY DIRECTION OF THE PRESIDENT
THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

IS PRESENTED TO

LIEUTENANT COLONEL JACK O. JOHNSON, 077 484, ARTILLERY

For distinguishing himself by outstanding meritorious achievement in connection with ground operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 10 December 1967 to 10 June 1968 while serving as Commanding Officer of the 188th Assault Helicopter Company at Dau Tieng, Binh Duong Province, and Landing Zone Sally, Quang Tri Province, Republic of Vietnam. Upon arrival in this unit, Lieutenant Colonel Johnson began to improve the unit's morale and welfare. The unit's outstanding record of achievements can be attributed to his efforts. Early in March 1968, the unit moved to I Corps area. Once situated, the 188th Assault Helicopter Company continued its outstanding support of ground troops. Throughout his tour, he overcame and minimized a multitude of problems inherent in an assault helicopter company. His application of dynamic leadership, rare foresight, and sound principles were apparent in the historical records of this unit. Colonel Johnson's continuous attempts to improve the unit's maintenance posture raised the level of aircraft availability. He continually sought to improve the living conditions of his men. Hot water showers were installed and the unit's mess hall was completely renovated. The officer's and enlisted men's living quarters were improved, giving both an added touch of comfort. Several large personnel bunkers were built, adding protection in event of an enemy attack. When the company moved, Colonel Johnson again initiated action to see his men live as comfortably as possible. New hot water showers were built and a fully screened mess hall completed. The move from Dau Tieng to Landing Zone Sally was executed with the same efficiency displayed in all his endeavors. He developed precise loading plans which enabled the company to move in an efficient and organized manner. On arrival, thirty aircraft revetments were built within a matter of days and a new maintenance area was built. Colonel Johnson displayed a unique ability to foresee the problem areas and to effect prompt and preventive action which resolved operational difficulties and materially advanced the unit's overall mission. Lieutenant Colonel Johnson's outstanding meritorious achievements and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.



THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TO ALL WHO SHALL SEE THESE PRESENTS, GREETING:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT
THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AUTHORIZED BY ACT OF CONGRESS JULY 9, 1918
HAS AWARDED

THE SILVER STAR

TO

LIEUTENANT COLONEL JACK O. JOHNSON, 077 484, ARTILLERY

FOR
GALLANTRY IN ACTION

IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM ON 27 MARCH 1968

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND IN THE CITY OF WASHINGTON

THIS NINTH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 19 68

William F. Fair



Stanley R. Resor
SECRETARY OF THE ARMY

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Headquarters 101st Airborne Division
APO San Francisco 96383

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 8381

27 October 1968

AWARD OF THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS (FIRST OAK LEAF CLUSTER)

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

JOHNSON, JACK O 077484 () LIEUTENANT COLONEL ARTILLERY 188th Assault Helicopter Company 269th Combat Aviation Battalion APO San Francisco 96383

Awarded: The Distinguished Flying Cross (First Oak Leaf Cluster)

Effective Month: October 1968

Date action: 9 December 1967

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For heroism while participating in aerial flight evidenced by voluntary action above and beyond the call of duty in the Republic of Vietnam on 9 December 1967, while serving as 269th Combat Aviation Battalion Safety Officer. Lieutenant Colonel (then Major) Johnson was riding as pilot in a UH-1 with the 188th Assault Helicopter Company on a combat assault north of Dau Tieng, Republic of Vietnam. They had made an assault landing and were departing from the landing zone when Lieutenant Colonel Johnson's aircraft developed engine failure. The aircraft was at approximately one hundred and fifty (150) feet in the air at that time. He instantly assumed command of the aircraft and selected the only possible depression in the dense jungle below him and auto-rotated the aircraft into that area. The area was barely able to accommodate the aircraft but due to Lieutenant Colonel Johnson's skill, it sustained only minor damage, and the crew was uninjured. Upon landing, Lieutenant Colonel Johnson instantly directed the crew to secure the aircraft equipment and established a defensive perimeter in the hostile area. He directed these activities from the roof of the downed aircraft, in an exposed position, without regard for his own personal safety. He remained in that position to guide the rescuing aircraft into this confined area and passed all the aircraft equipment, his own crew, and lastly himself into the aircraft. His professional flying skill in the air and military knowledge on the ground contributed directly to the safe recovery with minimum damage to the aircraft and its equipment. Lieutenant Colonel Johnson's outstanding flying ability and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President of the United States under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:

W. P. TALLON, JR
Colonel, GS
Chief of Staff

M. K. Labar
M. K. LABAR
LTC, AGC
Adjutant General

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I WAS FLYING #10
IN THE LIFT WITH
A WO THAT I
CAN'T REMEMBER.
WE REALLY DID GO
DOWN IN A HOLE
150 - 200 FOOT DEEP.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Headquarters 101st Airborne Division
APO San Francisco 96383

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 8381

27 October 1968

AWARD OF THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS (FIRST OAK LEAF CLUSTER)

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

JOHNSON, JACK O 077484 () LIEUTENANT COLONEL ARTILLERY 188th Assault Helicopter Company 269th Combat Aviation Battalion APO San Francisco 96383

Awarded: The Distinguished Flying Cross (First Oak Leaf Cluster)

Effective Month: October 1968

Date action: 9 December 1967

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

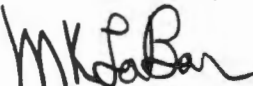
Reason: For heroism while participating in aerial flight evidenced by voluntary action above and beyond the call of duty in the Republic of Vietnam on 9 December 1967, while serving as 269th Combat Aviation Battalion Safety Officer. Lieutenant Colonel (then Major) Johnson was riding as pilot in a UH-1 with the 188th Assault Helicopter Company on a combat assault north of Dau Tieng, Republic of Vietnam. They had made an assault landing and were departing from the landing zone when Lieutenant Colonel Johnson's aircraft developed engine failure. The aircraft was at approximately one hundred and fifty (150) feet in the air at that time. He instantly assumed command of the aircraft and selected the only possible depression in the dense jungle below him and auto-rotated the aircraft into that area. The area was barely able to accommodate the aircraft but due to Lieutenant Colonel Johnson's skill, it sustained only minor damage, and the crew was uninjured. Upon landing, Lieutenant Colonel Johnson instantly directed the crew to secure the aircraft equipment and established a defensive perimeter in the hostile area. He directed these activities from the roof of the downed aircraft, in an exposed position, without regard for his own personal safety. He remained in that position to guide the rescuing aircraft into this confined area and passed all the aircraft equipment, his own crew, and lastly himself into the aircraft. His professional flying skill in the air and military knowledge on the ground contributed directly to the safe recovery with minimum damage to the aircraft and its equipment. Lieutenant Colonel Johnson's outstanding flying ability and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President of the United States under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:

W. P. TALLON, JR
Colonel, GS
Chief of Staff


H. K. LABAR
LTC, AGC
Adjutant General

DISTRIBUTION:

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HEADQUARTERS
1ST AVIATION BRIGADE
APO San Francisco 96384

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 4615

"NGUY HIEM"

15 July 1968

AWARD OF THE ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

1. TC 320. The following AWARDS are announced.

Awarded: Army Commendation Medal

Date action: 16 April 1968

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against a hostile force: These men distinguished themselves when a friendly vehicle received a direct hit from an artillery round and burst into flames. The trailer attached to the vehicle was filled with several containers of chlorine, gasoline, chemicals and a ten kilowatt generator. Arriving at the burning vehicle, they utilized fire fighting equipment to attack the blaze. The chlorine was burning and emitting deadly fumes and the gasoline cans were in danger of exploding at any moment. Disregarding their own safety, they moved extremely close with an extinguisher hose in an attempt to smother the fire. They became completely engulfed within billowing smoke and poisonous fumes caused by oxidation of chemicals. They then employed a water pump in a desperate attempt to put out the fire. They deftly and accurately sprayed water on the chlorine until it was completely diluted and rendered harmless. Their rendition of tactically appropriate fire fighting techniques was undoubtedly responsible for saving the vehicle. Their actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon themselves, their unit, and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the Secretary of the Army under the provisions of AR - 672-5-1 and United States Army Vietnam Message 16695 dated 1 July 1966.

JOHNSON, JACK C. 077484 SSAN: [REDACTED] MAJOR ARTILLERY

United States Army, 188th Aslt Hel Co, APO 96383

SCHAIBLY, JOHN W. 098228 SSAN: [REDACTED] CAPTAIN TRANSPORTATION CORPS

United States Army, 188th Aslt Hel Co, APO 96383

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Info removed by VNCA

HEADQUARTERS
1ST AVIATION BRIGADE
APO San Francisco 96384

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 3052

"NGUY HIEM"

18 June 1968

AWARD OF THE SOLDIER'S MEDAL

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

JOHNSON, JACK C. 077484 SSAN: [REDACTED] MAJOR ARTILLERY
United States Army, 188th Aslt Hel Co, APO 96383

Awarded: Soldier's Medal (First Oak Leaf Cluster)

Date action: 31 January 1968


Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For heroism not involving actual conflict with an armed enemy force: Major Johnson distinguished himself at Camp Rainier when the installation came under heavy enemy mortar, rocket, and small arms attack. Shortly after the counter mortar aircraft took off, it became obvious to him that the aircraft was not developing full power, and that a crash was imminent. He immediately emerged from his protective bunker and ran to the medical bunker to inform them of the critical situation. He voluntarily exposed himself to the intense volume of enemy fire as he escorted the emergency vehicle to the scene of the crash. Enroute to the crash site, a mortar round went off just fifty meters from the vehicle. Arriving at the crash site, he quickly evaluated the disposition of the situation and took command of the rescue operation. He personally assisted in extracting one crew member from the twisted wreckage, only moments before the ship burst into flames. As the ship burst into flames, personnel of the rescue team stated that a fifth person was still inside the burning ship. Despite the flames which engulfed the ship, Major Johnson and one other man remained to search for the fifth man until the fire and exploding ammunition drove them from the area. His courage and personal bravery were truly instrumental in the successful rescue of the stunned crew members. His actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President under the provisions of the Act of Congress, approved 2 July 1926.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:


LEE S. PETERSON
1LT, AGC
Asst Adjutant General

EUGENE F. CROOKS
LTC, INF
Act Chief of Staff

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HEADQUARTERS
1ST AVIATION BRIGADE
AFO San Francisco 96384

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 3782

"NGUY HIEM"

15 June 1968

AWARD OF THE SOLDIER'S MEDAL

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

JOHNSON, JACK O. 077484 SSAN: [REDACTED] MAJOR ARTILLERY
United States Army, 188th Aslt Hel Co, AFO 96383

Awarded: Soldier's Medal

Date action: 22 January 1968

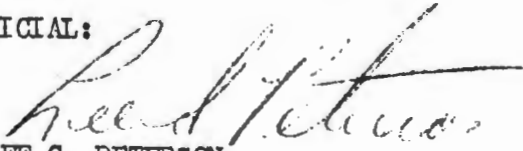
Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For heroism not involving actual conflict with an armed enemy force: Major Johnson distinguished himself when he helped save the lives of two victims of a truck accident. While approaching the Tay Ninh Airfield, he observed a three quarter ton truck leave the road and turn over in a water filled ditch. Upon touchdown, he instructed his crew chief to depart the ship and determine if anyone was injured in the wrecked vehicle. After receiving word that two men were trapped under the vehicle and one man was walking around in a daze, he immediately proceeded to the scene of the accident and treated the man who was walking around, then went to the aid of the trapped men. The electrical system of the wrecked vehicle was so damaged that it was impossible to disconnect the battery and render it incapable of delivering a spark which would ignite the leaking fuel into a flaming inferno. Despite the great possibility of the vehicle exploding, he immediately went to attempt to free the stricken men from the wreckage. Unable to lift the vehicle to remove the men, he began digging with his bare hands to free them. After twenty minutes of vigorous labor, he was successfully able to remove the two men from beneath the vehicle. His courageous actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President under the provisions of the Act of Congress, approved 2 July 1926.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:


LEE S. PETERSON
1LT, AGC
Asst Adjutant General

EUGENE F. CROOKS
LTC, INF
Act Chief of Staff

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STATEMENT

On 22 January 1968, Major Jack O. Johnson was flying aircraft 199 of the 188th Assault Helicopter Company. He was working on a mission out of Tay Ninh. As he was returning to get fuel, he spotted a three quarter ton truck that had just turned over in a ditch. He then took control of the aircraft and landed about fifty to seventy-five feet from the truck. He then told the crew chief to check it out and see if any one was hurt. When the crew chief came back he said there were two people under the truck and that one man was walking around in a daze. Major Johnson then got out of the aircraft and got the man in a daze to lay down and treated him for shock. Then he ran to the trapped people beneath the vehicle. He found the ditch had been filled with water and spilled fuel. Disregarding the fact that the fuel could become an inferno of flames at any moment by a spark from the battery, Major Johnson crawled down between the ditch and truck to free the trapped people. He and the crew chief freed the man fairly easily. They carried him out from under the truck and treated him best as possible then returned to free a woman who had her leg underneath the truck. After a few seconds of decision, it was decided that he would have to dig out from under her leg to free it. After about twenty minutes of digging, the leg was finally freed. He then carried her from under the truck and told the pilot to notify a dust-off chopper. A few minutes later one came. Due to Major Johnson's unselfishness and quick actions, the lives of three people were saved.

James E. Hensley
JAMES E. HENSLEY
SF5/E5, RA15926030

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Headquarters 101st Airborne Division
APO San Francisco 96383

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 10794

15 December 1968

AWARD OF THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS (SECOND OAK LEAF CLUSTER)

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

JOHNSON, JACK O 077484 [REDACTED] LIEUTENANT COLONEL ARTILLERY Headquarters
and Headquarters Company 308th Combat Aviation Battalion APO San Francisco 96383

Awarded: The Distinguished Flying Cross (Second Oak Leaf Cluster)

Effective month: N/A

Date action: 2 January 1968

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For heroism while participating in aerial flight as evidenced by voluntery action above and beyond the call of duty in the Republic of Vietnam on 2 January 1968. Lieutenant Colonel Johnson distinguished himself during a resupply mission at Fire Support Base Burt, Tay Ninh Province, Republic of Vietnam. The base had been under heavy attack and was in need of ammunition in order to withstand the enemy assault which had penetrated the base perimeter. Colonel Johnson requested the ground unit to furnish directions to the resupply area in order to begin immediate resupply of the fire support base. He quickly organized his flight into groups of two and loaded the helicopters with ammunition for the base. While enroute, Colonel Johnson and his crews came under fifty caliber machine gun fire from several enemy positions, but succeeded in maneuvering their aircraft around the small area. The ammunition was unloaded, and wounded personnel were loaded for evacuation. Colonel Johnson then maneuvered his aircraft out of the base and flew directly to the hospital with the wounded personnel. After unloading and resupplying, he returned two more times to carry ammunition and evacuate the wounded. Lieutenant Colonel Johnson's outstanding flying ability and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President of the United States under the provisions of the Act of Congress, approved 2 July 1926.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:

f. M. Marsh MAJAGC

DALE H. HAYES
LTC, AGC
Adjutant General

L. L. MOWERY
Colonel, GS
Chief of Staff

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SPECIAL DISTRIBUTION:

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RECOMMENDATION FOR DECORATION FOR VALOR OR MERIT
(Submit in three copies)

THRU: Commanding Officer 308 269th Cbt Avn Bn APO 96353 96383		TO: Commanding General 1st Avn Bde APO 96307		FROM: Commanding Officer 188th Aslt Hel Co APO 96268 96383	
1. NAME: (Last, First, MI) JOHNSON, Jack O. SSAN: [REDACTED]		2. SN: 077426		3. GRADE MAJ	4. BRANCH: (MOS-WO & EM) ARTY
5. AGE: (Nearest Year) 36 Years	6. CATEGORY 1-Y PERSONNEL <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	7. MONTHS IN RVN: (Nearest Month) 7 Months	8. POSTHUMOS AWARD <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO		
9. ORGANIZATION AT TIME OF ACTION: 188th Aslt Hel Co APO 96383			10. ACTION OF FINAL APPROVING AUTH: <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVAL <input type="checkbox"/> DISAPPROVAL <input type="checkbox"/> UPGRADE <input type="checkbox"/> DOWNGRADE		
11. AWARD INDIVIDUAL RECOMMENDED FOR: <input type="checkbox"/> DSC <input type="checkbox"/> BS "V" <input type="checkbox"/> BS <input type="checkbox"/> SERVICE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SS <input type="checkbox"/> AM "V" <input type="checkbox"/> BAM <input type="checkbox"/> ACHIEVEMENT <input type="checkbox"/> DFC <input type="checkbox"/> ACM "V" <input type="checkbox"/> ACM <input type="checkbox"/> OAK LEAF CLUSTER <input type="checkbox"/> SM <input type="checkbox"/> LM <input type="checkbox"/> PH FOREIGN / OTHER AWARD N/A					
12. DATES OF SERVICE-MERIT: DATE(S) OF ACTION-VALOR: 31 January 1968		13. DEROS: 16 October 68	14. CURRENT ORGANIZATION: 188th Aslt Hel Co APO 96383		
15. PREVIOUS AWARDS (PH & HIGHER)					
DECORATION		DATE OF ACTION OR SERVICE		AUTHORITY	
ACM "V"		EVAL		1056 USMACV	
BAP-6th OLC		EVAL		794 USARV	
AM "V"		EVAL		613 USMACV	
AM "V" 1st OLC		EVAL		54 USMACV	
AM "V" 2nd OLC		EVAL		814 USMACV	
AM 8-15 OLC		EVAL		795 USARV	
AM 17-23 OLC		EVAL		796 USARV	
DFC		EVAL		2156 USMACV	
16. OTHERS RECOMMENDED FOR AN AWARD OF THE SAME ACTION: (State Name & Award)					
Specialist Fourth Class Neal R. Haber ES "V"					
17. NAME OF EYEWITNESSES:					
Specialist Fourth Class Neal R. Haber					

USARV Form 157-R (Revised 22 Dec 66) PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THIS FORM ARE OBSOLETE

18. NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION: (For all awards describe in detail what individual did to warrant decoration. For valor award describe in detail the mission, terrain and weather, enemy conditions and friendly casualties. (Use plain bond paper for continuation sheet if necessary).

At approximately 0430 hours on the night of 31 January, 1968, Camp Mainier, Dau Tieng, RVN, came under a heavy mortar, rocket and small arms attack. When the attack began Little Bear aircraft 631, the assigned counter mortar aircraft, executed a rapid reaction take off from its night stand-by position near the 3rd Brigade TCC. Shortly after take off it became obvious to certain personnel on the ground that the aircraft was not developing full power as it passed over the 188th Assault Helicopter Company's Operations, and that a crash landing was imminent. Major Jack O. Johnson, in the operations bunker, was one of those recognizing the plight of the stricken aircraft; he immediately went into action. Disregarding his own personal safety, Major Johnson emerged from the bunker, voluntarily exposing himself to the continuing mortar attack, ran to the medical bunker, rallied and quickly briefed the medical personnel regarding the situation. Mortars and rockets were exploding everywhere but unhesitatingly Major Johnson escorted the emergency vehicle to the scene of the wreckage. Enroute to the crash scene a rocket landed a mere fifty meters from Major Johnson's vehicle. Unfazed, he instructed the driver to continue on to the downed aircraft. Reaching the crash site, Major Johnson immediately evaluated the disposition of the injured and took command of the rescue operation, instantly organizing the personnel who were rendering assistance. He personally assisted in extracting one crew member from the twisted wreckage, only moments before the helicopter burst into flames. As the aircraft burst into flames the rescue personnel related to Major Johnson that they thought a fifth person was still aboard the burning wreckage. The flames grew higher and all the other rescue personnel quickly evacuated the scene, only Major Johnson and one other man remained to search for the fifth man. Searching feverently until the fire and exploding ammunition drove him to retreat, Major Johnson remained in and close to the wreckage, and only then because further effort was impossible did Major Johnson leave the wreckage. Throughout the entire sequence of events mortars and rockets were exploding through the immediate crash site. Displaying superb professionalism, exceptional heroism, and voluntary disregard for his own personal safety, Major Johnson chose to personally supervise the rescue. Major Johnson's courageous actions and cool decisive leadership were directly responsible for the rescue of the stunned and injured crew members. Major Johnson's actions were indicative of his personal qualities and of the American fighting man's courage and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

19. INCLOSURES:

- 1 Letter of recommendation
- 1 proposed citation
- 1 statement

20. INDIVIDUAL INITIATING RECOMMENDATION:

NAME, GRADE & POSITION

JOHN W. SCHABLY
CPT, TC
Executive Officer

SIGNATURE & DATE

John W. Schably
25 April 1968

RECOMMENDATION OF THRU COMMAND:

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL DISAPPROVAL OTHER

NAME, GRADE & POSITION:

SIGNATURE AND DATE:

PROPOSED CITATION FOR THE SILVER STAR

BY DIRECTION OF THE PRESIDENT, UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT OF CONGRESS, APPROVED 9 JULY 1918, A SILVER STAR FOR GALLANTRY IN ACTION WHILE ENGAGED IN MILITARY OPERATIONS AGAINST AN ARMED HOSTILE FORCE IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM IS AWARDED TO:

MAJOR JACK O. JOHNSON, 077484, ARTILLERY, UNITED STATES ARMY, WHO DISTINGUISHED HIMSELF BY EXCEPTIONALLY VALOROUS ACTIONS ON 31 JANUARY, 1968. AT APPROXIMATELY 0430 HOURS CAMP RAINIER, DAU TIENG, REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM, CAME UNDER A HEAVY MORTAR, ROCKET, AND SMALL ARMS ATTACK. WHEN THE ATTACK BEGAN THE ASSIGNED COUNTER MORTAR AIRCRAFT EXECUTED A RAPID REACTION TAKE OFF FROM ITS NIGHT STAND-BY POSITION. SHORTLY AFTER TAKE-OFF IT BECAME OBVIOUS TO MAJOR JOHNSON THAT THE AIRCRAFT WAS NOT DEVELOPING FULL POWER, AND THAT A CRASH LANDING WAS IMMINENT. DISREGARDING HIS OWN PERSONAL SAFETY, HE IMMEDIATELY WENT INTO ACTION. MAJOR JOHNSON EMERGED FROM THE BUNKER, VOLUNTARILY EXPOSING HIMSELF TO THE CONTINUING MORTAR ATTACK, RAN TO THE MEDICAL BUNKER, RALLIED AND QUICKLY BRIEFED THE MEDICAL PERSONNEL REGARDING THE SITUATION. MORTARS AND ROCKETS WERE EXPLODING EVERYWHERE BUT UNHESITANTLY MAJOR JOHNSON ESCORTED THE EMERGENCY VEHICLE TO THE SCENE OF THE WRECKAGE. ENROUTE TO THE CRASH SCENE A ROCKET LANDED A MERE FIFTY METERS FROM MAJOR JOHNSON'S VEHICLE. UNDAUNTED, HE INSTRUCTED THE DRIVER TO CONTINUE ON TO THE DOWNED AIRCRAFT. REACHING THE CRASH SITE, MAJOR JOHNSON IMMEDIATELY EVALUATED THE DISPOSITION OF THE INJURED AND TOOK COMMAND OF THE RESCUE OPERATION, INSTANTLY ORGANIZING THE PERSONNEL WHO WERE RENDERING ASSISTANCE. HE PERSONALLY ASSISTED IN EXTRACTING ONE CREW MEMBER FROM THE TWISTED WRECKAGE, ONLY MOMENTS BEFORE THE

HELICOPTER BURST INTO FLAMES. AS THE AIRCRAFT BURST INTO FLAMES, THE RESCUE PERSONNEL RELATED TO MAJOR JOHNSON THAT THEY THOUGHT A FIFTH PERSON WAS STILL ABOARD THE BURNING WRECKAGE. THE FLAMES GREW HIGHER AND ALL THE OTHER RESCUE PERSONNEL QUICKLY EVACUATED THE SCENE, ONLY MAJOR JOHNSON AND ONE OTHER MAN REMAINED TO SEARCH FOR THE FIFTH MAN, SEARCHING FEVERANTLY UNTIL THE FIRE AND EXPLODING AMMUNITION DROVE HIM TO RETREAT. MAJOR JOHNSON'S COURAGEOUS ACTION AND COOL DECISIVE LEADERSHIP WERE DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE RESCUE OF THE STUNNED AND INJURED CREW MEMBERS. MAJOR JOHNSON'S ACTIONS WERE INDICATIVE OF HIS PERSONAL QUALITIES AND OF THE AMERICAN FIGHTING MAN'S COURAGE. HIS ACTIONS WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MILITARY SERVICE AND REFLECT GREAT CREDIT UPON HIMSELF, HIS UNIT, AND THE UNITED STATES ARMY.

S-T-A-T-E-M-E-N-T

At approximately 0430 hours on 31 January, 1968, Camp Rainier, Dau Tieng came under heavy mortar, rocket, and small arms fire. A little Bear aircraft, the assigned counter mortar aircraft, crashed while making a rapid departure from Dau Tieng airfield. Major Johnson being aware of the crash quickly departed the safety of his bunker and ran to the medical aid bunker. After quickly briefing the medical personnel he proceeded to accompany them to the crash site. Enroute a rocket hit a mere fifty meters from Major Johnson's vehicle. Without regard for his own safety he continued on to the crash sight. Upon reaching the scene of the wreckage Major Johnson quickly assessed the situation and began organizing and directing the rescue operation. Major Johnson assisted in pulling one of the injured crew members from the twisted wreckage only seconds before the aircraft burst into flames. Some of the rescue personnel told Major Johnson that they believed a fifth person was still aboard the burning wreckage. All the other rescue personnel had departed the area when the ship burst into flames but Major Johnson remained to look for the fifth person. Not until the intense heat and exploding ammunition forced Major Johnson away from the aircraft did he give up his search. To avoid being hit by the exploding ammunition, Major Johnson jumped into a ditch, where he spent many long minutes. Major Johnson's cool decisive leadership and exceptional heroism were directly responsible for the rescue of the injured crew members. His actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

NEAL R. HABER
SP4, RA11424712

PROPOSED CITATION FOR THE SOLDIER'S MEDAL

BY DIRECTION OF THE PRESIDENT, UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT OF CONGRESS, APPROVED 2 JULY 1926, A SOLDIER'S MEDAL FOR HEROISM NOT INVOLVING ACTUAL CONFLICT WITH AN ARMED ENEMY IS AWARDED TO:

MAJOR JACK O. JOHNSON, 077484, UNITED STATES ARMY, WHO DISTINGUISHED HIMSELF BY EXCEPTIONALLY VALOROUS ACTIONS ON 22 JANUARY 1968 WHEN, AT GREAT RISK TO HIS OWN LIFE, HE SAVED THE LIFE OF A TRUCK ACCIDENT VICTIM. APPROACHING THE TAY NINH AIRFIELD, MAJOR JOHNSON OBSERVED AN ACCIDENT INVOLVING A THREE QUARTER TON TRUCK WHICH HAD LEFT THE ROAD AND TURNED OVER IN A WATER FILLED DITCH. LEAVING HIS AIRCRAFT, MAJOR JOHNSON INSTRUCTED HIS CREW CHIEF TO DEPART THE AIRCRAFT AND DETERMINE IF ANYONE WAS INJURED. RETURNING TO THE AIRCRAFT, THE CREW CHIEF TOLD MAJOR JOHNSON THAT TWO PEOPLE, UNCONSCIOUS AND TRAPPED BENEATH THE VEHICLE, WERE ABOUT TO DROWN. ANOTHER MAN WAS ALSO WALKING AROUND IN A DAZE. MAJOR JOHNSON QUICKLY TREATED THE DAZED MAN THEN IMMEDIATELY PROCEEDED TO THE AID OF THE TRAPPED PERSONNEL. THE VEHICLE'S ELECTRICAL SYSTEM WAS STILL CONNECTED AND WAS SO DAMAGED DUE TO THE ACCIDENT THAT IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO DISCONNECT THE BATTERY AND RENDER IT INCAPABLE OF DELIVERING A SPARK WHICH WOULD IGNITE THE LEAKING FUEL INTO A FLAMING INFERNO. MAJOR JOHNSON, DISREGARDING THE PERSONAL HAZARD INVOLVED, DISPLAYED SELFLESS COURAGE AND DEEP HUMAN COMPASSION BY IMMEDIATELY GOING TO THE AID OF THE INDIVIDUALS. UNABLE TO LIFT THE WRECKAGE TO FREE THE INDIVIDUALS, IT BECAME OBVIOUS THAT IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO DIG THE DIRT OUT FROM UNDER THE PINNED PART OF THE BODY TO FREE THE PEOPLE. WORKING WITH BARE HANDS DUE TO THE SMALL SPACE AVAILABLE AND THE DESIRE NOT TO DO FURTHER INJURY TO THE INDIVIDUALS, IT TOOK THIRTY MINUTES OF CONCENTED EFFORT TO FREE THE PEOPLE. AT

ANY MENT DURING THE PERIOD A SERGEANT FROM A YOUNGER REGIMENT
THEY WERE ALL ABOUT AND WOULD BE HELD IN GREAT ESTEEM BY THE
MOUTH TO THE MOUTH. MAJOR JOHNSON'S ACTIONS WERE THE LIFE OF THESE IN-
DIVIDUALS AT THE RISK OF LOSING HIS OWN. HIS ACTIONS WERE IN ACCORD WITH THE
HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MILITARY SERVICE AND HE DESERVES GREAT CREDIT FOR HIM-
SELF, HIS UNIT, AND THE UNITED STATES ARMY.

RECOMMENDATION FOR DECORATION FOR VALOR OR MERIT
(Submit in three copies)

THRU: Commanding Officer 308 269th Cbt Avn Bn APO 96353 96383		TO: Commanding General 1st Avn Bde APO 96307		FROM: Commanding Officer 188th Aslt Hel Co APO 96268 96383	
1. NAME: (Last, First, MI) JOHNSON, Jack O. [REDACTED]		2. SN: 077484		3. GRADE MAJ	4. BRANCH: (MOS-WO & EM) AVTY
5. AGE: (Nearest Year) 36 Years	6. CATEGORY 1-Y PERSONNEL <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO		7. MONTHS IN RVN: (Nearest Month) 7 Months	8. POSTHUMOS AWARD <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	
9. ORGANIZATION AT TIME OF ACTION: 188th Aslt Hel Co APO 96383			10. ACTION OF FINAL APPROVING AUTH: <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVAL <input type="checkbox"/> DISAPPROVAL <input type="checkbox"/> UPGRADE <input type="checkbox"/> DOWNGRADE		
CODE:					
11. AWARD INDIVIDUAL RECOMMENDED FOR: <input type="checkbox"/> DSC <input type="checkbox"/> BS "V" <input type="checkbox"/> BS <input type="checkbox"/> SERVICE <input type="checkbox"/> SS <input type="checkbox"/> AM "V" <input type="checkbox"/> BAM <input type="checkbox"/> ACHIEVEMENT <input type="checkbox"/> DFC <input type="checkbox"/> ACM "V" <input type="checkbox"/> ACM <input type="checkbox"/> OAK LEAF CLUSTER <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SM <input type="checkbox"/> LM <input type="checkbox"/> PH					FOREIGN / OTHER AWARD N/A
12. DATES OF SERVICE-MERIT: DATE(S) OF ACTION-VALOR: 22 January 1968		13. DEDOS: 16 October 68	14. CURRENT ORGANIZATION: 188th Aslt Hel Co APO 96383		
15. PREVIOUS AWARDS (PH & HIGHER)					
DECORATION		DATE OF ACTION OR SERVICE		AUTHORITY	
See inclosure					
16. OTHERS RECOMMENDED FOR AN AWARD OF THE SAME ACTION: (State Name & Award) Specialist Fifth Class James K. Donaley Soldier's Medal					
17. NAME OF EYEWITNESSES: Specialist Fifth Class James K. Donaley					

USARV Form 157-R (Revised 22 Dec 66) PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THIS FORM ARE OBSOLETE

18. NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION: (For all awards describe in detail what individual did to warrant decoration. For valor award describe in detail the mission, terrain and weather, enemy conditions and friendly casualties. (Use plain bond paper for continuation sheet if necessary).

On 22 January 1968, Major Jack G. Johnson, 077484, United States Army, was aircraft commander on helicopter 199 of the 185th Assault Helicopter Company on a mission near Tay Ninh, Republic of Vietnam. While enroute to refuel, Major Johnson observed an accident involving a three quarter ton truck which had left the road and turned over in a water filled ditch. He landed in the vicinity of the accident to determine if anyone was injured to render aid if required. When the aircraft landed Major Johnson instructed his crew chief to depart the aircraft and go to the vehicle and determine if help was required. The crew chief came back with the report that two people, unconscious and trapped under the vehicle, were about to drown, and one man was walking around in a daze. Major Johnson immediately went into action. The vehicle's fuel supply was pouring into the ditch from a ruptured fuel tank, surrounding the people beneath the vehicle and constituting an extremely hazardous condition. The vehicle's electrical system was still connected and was so damaged due to the accident that it was impossible to disconnect the battery and render it incapable of delivering a spark which would ignite the fuel into an inferno. Major Johnson, disregarding personal hazards involved, displayed selfless courage and deep human compassion by immediately going to the aid of the individuals. Unable to lift the wreckage to free the individuals, it became obvious that it would be necessary to dig the dirt out from under the pinned part of the body to free the people. Working with bare hands due to the small space available and the desire not to do further injury to the individuals, it took twenty minutes of concerted effort to free the people. At any moment during the rescue a single spark from any source would have ignited the fuel which was all about the area and would surely cause great bodily harm if not death to the rescuers. Major Johnson's actions saved the lives of these individuals, at the risk of losing his own. His actions show great personal courage and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

<p>19. INCLOSURES:</p> <p>Continuation Page Proposed Citation Statement</p>	<p>20. INDIVIDUAL INITIATING RECOMMENDATION:</p>	
	<p>NAME, GRADE & POSITION JOHN W. SCHAINLY CPT TC Executive Officer</p>	<p>SIGNATURE & DATE <i>John W. Schainly</i> 6 May 1968</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION OF THRU COMMAND:</p>		
<p>RECOMMENDED <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVAL <input type="checkbox"/> DISAPPROVAL <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER</p>		
<p>NAME, GRADE & POSITION:</p>	<p>SIGNATURE AND DATE:</p>	

(USARV Form 157-R) Line 15, PREVIOUS AWARDS (PH & HIGHER), Continued

<u>DEGRADATION</u>	<u>DATE OF ACTION OR SERVICE</u>	<u>AUTHORITY</u>
BAK-6th OLC	NVAL	794 USARV
AM 8-15th OLC	NVAL	795 USARV
AM 17-23rd OLC	NVAL	796 USARV
AM "V"	NVAL	613 USMACV
AM "V" 1st OLC	NVAL	56 USMACV
AM "V" 2nd OLC	NVAL	844 USMACV
PH	NVAL	1056 USMACV
DFC	NVAL	2156 USMACV
DFC	9 Dec 1967	Pending
SS	31 January 1968	Pending
SS	27 March 1968	Pending

AVBA (18 Feb 68)
SUBJECT: Commendation

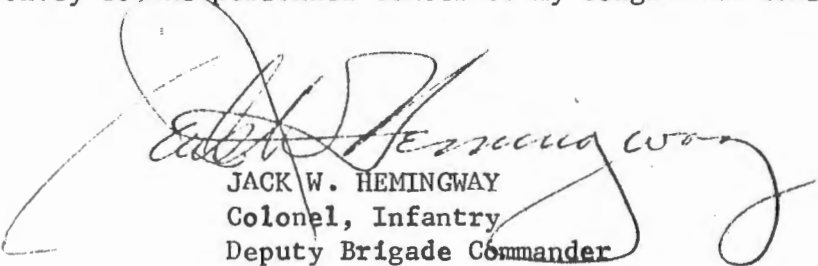
1st Ind

HEADQUARTERS, 1ST AVIATION BRIGADE, APO 96384, 29 February 1968

THRU: Commanding Officer, 12th Combat Aviation Group, APO 96266

TO: Major Jack O. Johnson, Commanding Officer, 188th Assault
Helicopter Company, APO 96268

Forwarded with pride. Your actions and those of your crew were truly professional and are in keeping with the highest traditions of Army Aviation and the military service. The humane and courageous response evident in this instance enhances close international friendships and understanding. Please convey to the personnel concerned my congratulations for a job well done.



JACK W. HEMINGWAY
Colonel, Infantry
Deputy Brigade Commander

FIELD HEADQUARTERS
1st PHILIPPINE CIVIC ACTION GROUP, RVN
TAY-NINH, VIETNAM



CAG6

18 February 1968

SUBJECT: Commendation

TO: Commanding General
1st Aviation Brigade
Long Binh, Vietnam

FROM: Commanding Officer
269th Combat Aviation Battalion
Cu Chi, Vietnam

1. It is with a deep sense of gratitude and satisfaction that I commend MAJOR JACK O JOHNSON, Aircraft Commander of your Company and his helicopter crew for the rescue and evacuation to the 48th Hospital (MUST) of two (2) 1st PHILCAG troopers, Sgt Luciano de Guzman and Cpl Antonio Orillosa, whose vehicle overturned as the result of an ambush by hostile sniper fire along the Thai Hoa diversion road, Tay Ninh, on or about 211146 January 1968.

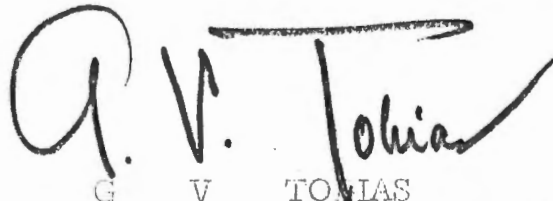
2. Major Johnson's timely arrival at the scene of the incident prevented the enemy from exploiting the ambush. For your information, Sgt De Guzman who was subsequently evacuated by "Fast-Off" to the 24th Evacuation Hospital in Long Binh expired at noon the following day due to a gunshot wound in the head, while Cpl Orillosa was returned to duty after two weeks confinement at our Station Hospital.

Page 1 of 2 pages

/s/ Major Johnson's quick

3. Major Johnson's quick, fearless and decisive action in landing his helicopter to render assistance to the victims and the subsequent selfless acts of his crew in administering first aid, is indeed a fine example of true camaraderie which will go a long way in giving greater meaning to the common effort of the Free World Forces in Vietnam and further reaffirm the traditional ties of friendship and understanding between our two peoples.

4. Please extend to Major Johnson and the members of his crew, WO Pilot WILLIAM E COATES, SP4 JAMES E HENSLEY, and SFC CHARLES PATRICK, my commendation for a job very well done.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "G. V. Thomas". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping "G" and "T".

G V THOMAS
Brigadier General, AFF
Commanding

Copy furnished:
COMUSMACV
CG, 25th Inf Div

PROPOSED CITATION

BY EXECUTION OF THE PRESIDENT, UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT OF CONGRESS, APPROVED 9 JULY, 1918, A SILVER STAR FOR GALLANTRY IN ACTION WHILE ENGAGED IN MILITARY OPERATIONS AGAINST AN ARMED HOSTILE FORCE IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM IS AWARDED TO:

MAJOR JACK O JOHNSON, 071184, UNITED STATES ARMY, WHO DISTINGUISHED HIMSELF ON 27 MARCH 1968, WHILE SERVING AS AIRCRAFT COMMANDER OF THE 1ST BATTALION (AIRBORNE) 501ST INFANTRY COMPANY AND CONTROL AIRCRAFT DURING THE CONDUCT OF A SEARCH AND DESTROY OPERATION IN THE HUO ANSA, THUA THIEN PROVINCE, REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM. COMPANY D, 1ST BATTALION (AIRBORNE) 501ST INFANTRY WAS ENGAGED IN HEAVY CONTACT WITH AN ENEMY FORCE IN WHICH HEAVY CASUALTIES WERE TWO KILLED AND SEVENTEEN WOUNDED. COMPANY D HAD BEEN PINNED DOWN BY INTENSIVE HOSTILE RPG ROCKET, MACHINE GUN, AND ARTILLERY FIRE. MAJOR JOHNSON REPEATEDLY FLEW HIS COMMAND AND CONTROL AIRCRAFT AT LOW LEVEL OVER THE COMBAT AREA TO SPOT THE ENEMY WEAPONS POSITIONS. MAJOR JOHNSON'S AIRCRAFT REPEATEDLY ENCOUNTERED HEAVY RPG ROCKET, MACHINE GUN, AND ARTILLERY FIRE OVER THE OBJECTIVE AREA. DESPITE CONTINUING HOSTILE FIRE, THE COMMAND AND CONTROL SHIP FIRED SUPPRESSIVE MACHINE GUN FIRE AT THE ENEMY, KILLING FOUR. THE FIRE FROM THE DEOR GUNS GREATLY RELIEVED THE PRESSURE ON THE BELEAGUERED D COMPANY. HIS CONTINUAL LOW PASSES ENABLED THE GROUND GROUP TO LOCATE THE ENEMY GUN POSITIONS AND NEUTRALIZE THEM. MAJOR JOHNSON'S PROUD AND BRAVE SERVICE WHILE PILOTING A HEAVILY LOADED AIRCRAFT, SKILLFUL FINESSE THROUGH HEAVY ENEMY FIRE, EXCEPTIONALLY VALERIOUS ACTIONS, AND PERSONAL VALOR CONTRIBUTED IMMENSURABLY TO THE COMPLETION OF A DIFFICULT MISSION AND PREVENTED THE FURTHER LOSS OF LIFE. MAJOR JOHNSON'S ACTIONS WERE IN ACCORD WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MILITARY SERVICE AND WORTHY GREAT CREDIT UPON HIMSELF, HIS UNIT, AND THE UNITED STATES ARMY.

AVGC-SA (18 Feb 68)
SUBJECT: Commendation

2nd Ind

HEADQUARTERS, 12TH COMBAT AVIATION GROUP, APO SF 96266 3 March 1968

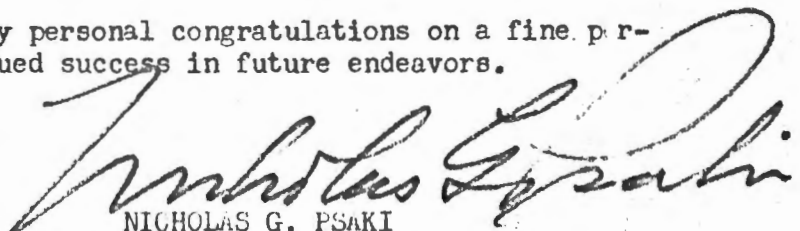
THRU: Commanding Officer, 269th Combat Aviation Battalion, APO SF 96353

TO: Major Jack O. Johnson, Commanding Officer, 188th Assault Helicopter
Company, APO SF 96268

It is indeed a pleasure to note and forward the laudatory comments of General Tobias and Colonel Hemingway in recognition of your humane and courageous response to the call of Allies in need.

The high degree of professional competence and the great personal courage displayed by you and the members of your crew are well known and respected by all of us in the command.

I am pleased to add my personal congratulations on a fine performance and to wish you continued success in future endeavors.



NICHOLAS G. PSAKI
Colonel, Infantry
Commanding

PROPOSED CITATION FOR THE SOLDIER'S MEDAL

BY DIRECTION OF THE PRESIDENT, AND IN THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT OF CONGRESS, APPROVED 2 JULY 1926, A SOLDIER'S MEDAL FOR HEROISM NOT INVOLVING ACTUAL COMBAT WITH AN ARMED ENEMY IS AWARDED TO:

MAJOR JACK O. JOHNSON, O-748, UNITED STATES ARMY, WHO DISTINGUISHED HIMSELF BY ESPECIALLY VALOROUS ACTIONS ON 16 APRIL 1968 NEAR HUE, REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM. ON 16 APRIL 1968, THE CREW OF ONE OF THE 10TH ASSAULT HELICOPTER COMPANY WAS NOTICED THAT A VEHICLE HAD RECEIVED A DIRECT HIT FROM AN ARTILLERY ROUND AND WAS BURSTING OUT OF CONTROL. THE FIGHTING ELEMENT WAS ORDERED TO MOVE AND GET OUT THE FIRE. THE VEHICLE, A VALVE PUMPICATION CAR AND TRAILER, WAS POSITIONED ON THE BACK OF THE SONG BOI HILL, SOME SEVERAL MILES WEST OF HUE. THE TRAILER CONTAINED APPROXIMATELY THIRTY-FIVE GALLONS OF GLORINE, A LETHAL CHEMICAL WEAPON, SEVERAL POUNDS OF AMMUNITION AND SEVERAL OTHER CHEMICALS. APPROXIMATELY AT THE TIME THE VEHICLE WAS DESTROYED, MAJOR JOHNSON RAN INTO ACTION, UNDOING THE FIRE FIGHTING ELEMENT AND MOVED IT IN VERY CLOSE TO THE BLAZE. BY THIS TIME, THE FIRE WAS COMPLETELY OUT OF CONTROL AND IN DANGER TO WANT THE PUMPICATION VEHICLE APART. THE GLORINE WAS BLENDING AND SPREADING RAPIDLY TOWARD THE CREW AND WAS IN DANGER OF EXPLODING AT ANY MOMENT. MAJOR JOHNSON, DISREGARDING THE PERSONAL DANGER INVOLVED, MOVED UNUSUALLY CLOSE TO THE BURNING TRAILER WITH THE PARTICIPANTS AND HELD IT ON A STEEP BANK WHILE SPECIALIST WABER, UNDER THE NOSE, ATTEMPTED TO SMOTHER THE BLAZE. HE STAYED MANY LONG MINUTES COMPLETELY ENCLOSED WITHIN THE SMOKE AND POISONOUS FIRE GASES BY THE CHEMICAL FIRE. THE FIRE FIGHTING

A DIRECT SAFETY IS CONTAINED BUT THE FIRE, ALTHOUGH GREATLY WEAKENED, WAS NOT YET EXTINGUISHED. MAJOR JOHNSON ORDERED THE ENGINE TO BE MOVED IN AN ATTEMPT TO CUT OFF THE FUEL, KNOWING THAT MAJOR JOHNSON ORDERED THE MEN TO MOVE TO A SAFE PLACE AND TO REMAIN THERE UNTIL HE GAVE THE ORDER TO RETURN TO THE BURNING TRAIL. AS THE ENGINE WAS ALL IN THE HANDS, MAJOR JOHNSON ORDERED THE MEN TO BE MOVED OUT BUT THE DANGER OF THE ENGINE BLESTING REMAINED AS IT STILL REMAINED. MAJOR JOHNSON REMAINED WITH THE ENGINE UNTIL IT WAS COMPLETELY EXTINGUISHED AND REPORTED HIS RESULTS. MAJOR JOHNSON'S QUICK THINKING AND ORGANIZATIONAL ABILITIES ARE A GREATLY VALUABLE ASSET TO THE WATER PURIFICATION VEHICLES. THE ENGINE'S BURNING MIGHT HAVE CAUSED DAMAGE TO THE VEHICLE'S ELECTRICAL SYSTEM IN THE UNBURNING AREA, BUT THIS DAMAGE NEVER MATERIALIZED BECAUSE OF MAJOR JOHNSON'S QUICK THINKING. MAJOR JOHNSON'S ACTIONS WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGH STANDARDS OF THE MILITARY SERVICE AND REFLECT GREAT CREDIT UPON HIMSELF, HIS UNIT, AND THE UNITED STATES ARMY.

STATEMENT

On the morning of 16 April 1968 the one and a half ton trailer holding the generator to the water purification unit for the 3rd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division received a direct hit from artillery and caught fire. The 101st AB responded rapidly to an immediate request for fire fighting assistance to extinguish the fire. Major Johnson, Captain Schatky and specialists Peter and Lewis extinguished the fire after approximately one half an hour of fighting the fire with chemicals and water. All four men exposed themselves to a very dangerous situation in that inflammable fuel and chlorine gas producing chemicals were stored in the burning trailer.

s/Sgt I. Keesling
t/ASST. S. BROWNING
1SG, Infantry
Executive Officer

"THIS IS A TRUE COPY"
Richard E Rhodes
RICHARD E. RHODES
SQUAD AVIS
Certifying Officer

AVGC-F (18 Feb 68)
SUBJECT: Letter of Commendation

3rd Ind

HEADQUARTERS, 269TH COMBAT AVIATION BATTALION, APO 96353 7 March 1968

TO: Major Jack O. Johnson, Commanding Officer, 188th Assault Helicopter
Company, APO 96268

1. Jack, it is with great pleasure and pride that I forward General Tobias' letter of commendation. Your spontaneous actions in rescuing those trapped people contributed immeasurably to reinforcing the excellent comradeship existing between the Allied Forces.

2. May I add my own congratulations for a job well done. Keep up the fine work!

Edgar F. Todd
EDGAR F. TODD
LTC, Arty
Commanding

RECOMMENDATION FOR DECORATION FOR VALOR OR MERIT
(Submit in three copies)

THRU: Commanding Officer <i>308 269th Cbt Avn Bn APO 96359 96383</i>		TO: Commanding General 1st Avn Bde APO 96307		FROM: Commanding Officer 188th Aslt Hel Co APO 96268 96383	
1. NAME: (Last, First, MI) JACK O. JORGENSEN		2. SN: 077414		3. GRADE MAJ	4. BRANCH: (MOS-WC & EM) AVTY
5. AGE: (Nearest Year) 36 Years	6. CATEGORY 1-Y PERSONNEL <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	7. MONTHS IN RVN: (Nearest Month) 7 Months	8. POSTHUMOUS AWARD <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO		
9. ORGANIZATION AT TIME OF ACTION: 188th Aslt Hel Co APO 96383			10. ACTION OF FINAL APPROVING AUTH: <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVAL <input type="checkbox"/> DISAPPROVAL <input type="checkbox"/> UPGRADE <input type="checkbox"/> DOWNGRADE		
11. AWARD INDIVIDUAL RECOMMENDED FOR: <input type="checkbox"/> DSC <input type="checkbox"/> BS "V" <input type="checkbox"/> BS <input type="checkbox"/> SERVICE <input type="checkbox"/> SS <input type="checkbox"/> AM "V" <input type="checkbox"/> BAM <input type="checkbox"/> ACHIEVEMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DFC <input type="checkbox"/> ACM "V" <input type="checkbox"/> ACM <input type="checkbox"/> OAK LEAF CLUSTER <input type="checkbox"/> SM <input type="checkbox"/> LM <input type="checkbox"/> PH <div style="text-align: right;">FOREIGN / OTHER AWARD N/A</div>					
12. DATES OF SERVICE-MERIT: DATE(S) OF ACTION-VALOR: 16 April 1968		13. DIEROS: 16 October 68	14. CURRENT ORGANIZATION: 188th Aslt Hel Co APO 96383		
15. PREVIOUS AWARDS (PH & HIGHER)					
DECORATION		DATE OF ACTION OR SERVICE		AUTHORITY	
See Inclsure					
16. OTHERS RECOMMENDED FOR AN AWARD OF THE SAME ACTION: (State Name & Award) Captain John W. Kabisly Soldier's Medal Specialist Fifth Class John W. Mann Soldier's Medal Specialist Fourth Class Neal R. Huber Soldier's Medal					
17. NAME OF EYEWITNESSES: LTC Karl L. Kessling					

USARV Form 157-R (Revised 22 Dec 66) PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THIS FORM ARE OBSOLETE

18. NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION: (For all awards describe in detail what individual did to warrant decoration. For valor award describe in detail the mission, terrain and weather, enemy conditions and friendly casualties. (Use plain bond paper for continuation sheet if necessary).

On 16 April 1968, the orderly room of the 18th Assault Helicopter Company was notified that a vehicle had received a direct hit from an artillery round and was burning out of control. Fire fighting equipment was needed to try and put out the fire. The vehicle, a water purification van and trailer, was stationed on the bank of the Song Ho River, some seven miles northeast of this. A barrage of artillery rounds hit in the vicinity of the vehicle and one was a direct hit on the vehicle's trailer. The trailer contained several twenty-five gallon containers of chlorine, a ten kilowatt generator, several five gallon cans of gasoline and several other containers filled with supplies. When the call was received, a request was made for a fire fighting vehicle. Not having such a vehicle, Major Jack W. Johnson, Captain John C. Whitney, Specialist Fifth Class John W. Mann and Specialist Fourth Class Carl R. Baker voluntarily responded to the emergency call by gathering the company's portable aircraft fire fighting equipment and attaching it to two jeeps. With the equipment attached, Major Johnson and the others proceeded to the scene of the fire. Arriving at the burning vehicle Major Johnson went into action, wheeled the fire fighting equipment and moved it in very close to the blaze. At this time, the fire was completely out of control and threatening to start the purification vehicle afire. The chlorine was burning and emitting deadly fumes and the gasoline cans were in danger of exploding at any moment. Major Johnson, disregarding the personal danger involved, moved extremely close to the burning trailer with the extinguisher and held it on a steep bank while Specialist Baker, using the hose, attempted to smother the blaze. He spent many long minutes completely engulfed within the billowing smoke and poisonous fumes created by the chemical fire. The fire fighting equipment expended its contents but the fire, although greatly stifled, was not yet extinguished. A water pump was started in an attempt to put out the fire, using water. Major Johnson used the water hose to increase effectiveness, moving in very close to the burning trailer and watering down all burning parts. After thirty minutes the fire finally died out but the danger of the chlorine emitting poisonous gas still remained. Major Johnson sprayed water on the chlorine until it was completely diluted and rendered harmless. Major Johnson's quick thinking and unhesitating resolve were undoubtedly responsible for saving the water purification vehicle. The chlorine fumes might

(cont.)

19. INCLOSURES:	20. INDIVIDUAL INITIATING RECOMMENDATION:	
Proposed Citation Statement	NAME, GRADE & POSITION RICHARD G. ADAMS Major, C1 Executive Officer	SIGNATURE & DATE <i>Richard G. Adams</i> 25 May 1968
RECOMMENDATION OF THRU COMMAND:		
RECOMMENDED <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVAL <input type="checkbox"/> DISAPPROVAL <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER <input type="checkbox"/>		
NAME, GRADE & POSITION:	SIGNATURE AND DATE:	

(DA Form 157-) Continued, PARACHUTE OPERATIONS, Page 2

have proved deadly to the Vietnamese personnel in the surrounding area, but this threat never materialized because of Major Johnson's quick thinking. Major Johnson's actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

(DEAF Form 157-2) Section 15, Enclosure

<u>INDICATOR</u>	<u>DATE OF AWARD OR SERVICE</u>	<u>AUTHORITY</u>
2B-6th OLC	NYAL	794 USARV
AM "V"	NYAL	613 USMACV
AM "V" 1st OLC	NYAL	54 USMACV
AM "V" 2nd OLC	NYAL	814 USMACV
AM 6-15th OLC	NYAL	795 USARV
AM 17-23rd OLC	NYAL	796 USARV
FR	NYAL	1056 USMACV
NYC	NYAL	2156 USMACV
NYC 1st OLC	9 December 1967	Pending
NYC	22 January 1968	Pending
NYC	31 January 1968	Pending
NYC 1st OLC	27 March 1968	Pending



Headquarters
101st Airborne Division



This
Certificate of Achievement

is presented to

MAJOR JACK O. JOHNSON, O77484, UNITED STATES ARMY

Citation

Major Johnson distinguished himself by exceptionally meritorious achievement during the period 20 March 1968 to 10 June 1968 as Commanding Officer, 198th Assault Helicopter in support of 101st Airborne Division, Republic of Vietnam. He demonstrated the highest level of proficiency in the performance of his duties. Through his untiring efforts and professional ability, he continually obtained outstanding results. Working long arduous hours, he set an example that inspired his subordinates to strive for maximum achievement. Major Johnson's performance of duty was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.

Date 22 July 1968

C. I. Barsanti

C. I. BARSANTI
Major General, USA
Commanding

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Headquarters 101st Airborne Division
APO San Francisco 96383

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 5683

9 September 1968

SECTION I

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR MEDAL

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

JOHNSON, JACK O 077484 () LIEUTENANT COLONEL ARTILLERY Headquarters and Headquarters Company 159th Assault Support Helicopter Battalion APO San Francisco 96383

Awarded: The Silver Star Medal

Effective Month: September 1968

Date action: 27 March 1968

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For gallantry in action while engaged in military operations against an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Lieutenant Colonel (then Major) Johnson distinguished himself on 27 March 1968 while serving as Aircraft Commander for the 1st Battalion, 501st Infantry command and control aircraft during the conduct of a search and destroy operation in the Hue area, Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. Company D was engaged in heavy contact with an enemy force in which friendly casualties were two killed and seventeen wounded. Company D had become pinned down by intensive hostile rocket, machine gun, and mortar fire. Lieutenant Colonel Johnson repeatedly flew the command and control aircraft at low level over the combat area to spot the enemy weapons positions. Lieutenant Colonel Johnson's aircraft repeatedly encountered heavy fire over the objective area. Despite continued hostile fire, the command and control ship fired suppressive machine gun fire at the enemy, killing four. The fire from the door guns greatly relieved the pressure on the beleaguered D Company. His continual low passes enabled the command group to locate the hostile gun positions and neutralize them. Lieutenant Colonel Johnson's precise decisions while piloting a heavily loaded aircraft, skillful flying through heavy enemy fire, exceptionally valorous actions, and personal valor contributed immeasurably to the completion of a difficult mission and prevented the further loss of life. Lieutenant Colonel Johnson's actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President of the United States under the provisions of the Act of Congress established 9 July 1918.

RECOMMENDATION FOR DECORATION FOR VALOR OR MERIT
(Submit in three copies)

THRU: Commanding Officer 2d Co, 101st Abn Div APO SF 96333	TO: Commanding General 101st Abn Div APO SF 96333	FROM: Commanding Officer 2d Co (Inf) 501st Inf 101st Abn Div APO SF 96333
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1. NAME: (Last, First, MI) JOHNSON, JACK O.	2. SN: 077401 SSAN: [REDACTED]	3. GRADE: MAJ	4. BRANCH OFF (MOS-WO & EM)
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5. AGE: (Nearest Year) 35	6. CATEGORY 1-Y PERSONNEL <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	7. MONTHS IN VN (Nearest Month) 6	8. POSTHUMOUS AWARD: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
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9. ORGANIZATION AT TIME OF ACTION 100th Avn Co 101st Abn Div APO SF 96333	10. ACTION OF FINAL APPROVING AUTHORITY: <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVAL <input type="checkbox"/> DISAPPROVAL <input type="checkbox"/> UPGRADE <input type="checkbox"/> DOWNGRADE
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11. AWARD INDIVIDUAL IS RECOMMENDED FOR

<input type="checkbox"/> DSC	<input type="checkbox"/> ACM "V"	<input type="checkbox"/> SERVICE
<input type="checkbox"/> DFC	<input type="checkbox"/> LM	<input type="checkbox"/> ACHIEVEMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> DFC	<input type="checkbox"/> BS	<input type="checkbox"/> OAK LEAF CLUSTER
<input type="checkbox"/> SM	<input type="checkbox"/> AM	
<input type="checkbox"/> BS WTR	<input type="checkbox"/> ACM	
<input type="checkbox"/> AM WTR	<input type="checkbox"/> PH	

12. DATE OF ACTION - MERIT: DATE OF ACTION - VALOR: 27 March 1968	13. DEROS: 17 Oct 68	14. CURRENT ORGANIZATION: 100th Avn Co 101st Abn Div
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15. PREVIOUS AWARDS (PH & HIGHER)

DECORATION	DATE OF ACTION OR SERVICE	AUTHORITY

16. OTHERS RECOMMENDED FOR AN AWARD FOR THE ACTION: (State Name and Award)

LTC Wayne J. Prokup - DSC CPT Kingman - DFC
 CPT Jimmy J. Smith - AM "V" SGM Bob L. Williams - AM "V"
 MAJ Charles J. Harrell - ss

17. NAMES OF EYEWITNESSES:

WAYNE J. PROKUP
LTC CAP

Info removed by VNCA

18. NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION: (For all awards described in detail what individual did to warrant decoration. For valor award describe in detail the mission, terrain and weather, enemy condition and friendly casualties. Use plain bond paper for continuation sheet if necessary).

Major Jack O. Johnson, 07743h, United States Army, 198th Aviation Battalion, 101st Airborne Division, distinguished himself by gallantry in action on 27 March 1968 during the conduct of a search and destroy operation in the Hue area, Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. Major Johnson, Aircraft Commander for the 1st Battalion (Airborne) 501st Infantry, 101st Airborne Division, Command and Control aircraft, was participating in a search and destroy mission in which Company B of the 1st Battalion (Airborne) 501st Infantry was engaged in heavy contact with an enemy force in which friendly casualties were two killed and 17 wounded. The weather was clear and relatively hot. The terrain consisted of a mixture of rice paddies, marsh land, scattered vegetation, hedgerows, and bamboo thickets. The enemy force consisted of a reinforced company of North Vietnamese defending a well fortified village at V 700311. Company B had become pinned down by intensive hostile mortar, machine gun, and mortar fire. Major Johnson repeatedly flew the Command and Control aircraft at low level over the contact area to spot enemy mortar, automatic weapons, and rocket positions. Major Johnson's aircraft repeatedly encountered heavy enemy mortar, machine gun, and mortar fire while proceeding over the objective area. Despite continued hostile fire, the Command and Control aircraft fired suppressive machine gun fire at the enemy, killing 4. The fire from the door guns of the aircraft also greatly relieved the pressure on the beleaguered Company B. His continued low passes enabled the Command Group to locate the gun positions and neutralize the enemy weapons. Major Johnson's precise decisions while piloting heavily loaded aircraft, skillful flying through heavy enemy fire, exceptionally valorous actions, and personal valor, contributed immeasurably to the successful completion of a difficult mission, 5 enemy body count, and prevented further loss of life. His actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the 101st Airborne Division, and the United States Army.

19. ENCLOSURES

20. INDIVIDUAL INITIATING RECOMMENDATION

Proposed Citation

Date: _____
 In: _____

SIGNATURE & DATE

[Signature] 30 Apr 68

21. RECOMMENDATION OF THRU COMMAND

RECOMMEND

APPROVAL

DISAPPROVAL

OTHER

J. H. GERRARD
 Colonel, Infantry
 Commanding

SIGNATURE & DATE

RECOMMENDATION FOR AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTERS TO THE AIR MEDAL

THRU: Commanding Officer
 308th 269th Cbt Avn Bn
 APO 96353 96383

TO: Commanding General
 1st Avn Bde
 APO 96307

FROM: Commanding Officer
 188th Aslt Hel Co
 APO 96268 96383

1. NAME: JOHNSON, Jack O.	2. SN 077484	3. GRADE: MAJ	4. AGE: 36 Years	5. BRANCH: ARTY
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6. CATEGORY 1-Y PERSONNEL: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	7. MONTHS IN RVN: 8 Months	8. DEROS: 16 October 68	9. POSTHUMOS AWARD <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
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10. ORGANIZATION AT TIME OF ACTION
 188th Aslt Hel Co APO 96383

11. CURRENT ORGANIZATION
 308th Cbt Avn Bn APO 96383

CODE: BC

12. ACTION OF FINAL APPROVING AUTHORITY:

APPROVAL: DISAPPROVAL: UPGRADE: DOWNGRADE:

13. OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE AIR MEDAL FOR WHICH RECOMMENDED:
 NUMBER OF OLC: DATES OF ACTION:

24th OLC	24 October-22 November 1967
25th OLC	22 November-6 December 1967
26th OLC	6 December-19 December 1967
27th OLC	19 December-31 December 1967
28th OLC	31 December 1967-20 January 1968
29th OLC	20 January-29 January 1968
30th OLC	29 January-12 February 1968
31st OLC	12 February-16 February 1968
32nd OLC	16 February-22 February 1968
33rd OLC	22 February-28 February 1968
34th OLC	28 February-4 March 1968
35th OLC	4 March-20 March 1968
36th OLC	20 March-19 April 1968
37th OLC	19 April-6 May 1968
38th OLC	6 May-28 May 1968

FINAL AWARD

14. a. Request the individual listed in item 1 of this form be awarded the Oak Leaf Cluster to the Air Medal as indicated for sustained operations under the criteria outlined in USARV Regulation 672-1 with changes.

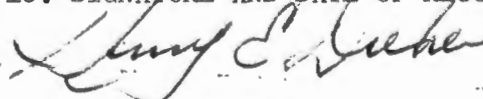
b. Individual concerned is presently on flying status with this organization and has met the required number of missions and hours for award of the Air Medal. I further certify that the unit flight records substantiate this recommendation.

c. Individual has not caused, either directly or indirectly, an aircraft abort, late takeoff, accident, or incident. He has continuously demonstrated a high degree of air discipline. Accomplishments and service throughout the period has reflected meritorious performance with no instance of non-professionalism, mediocrity, or failure to display an aggressive spirit.

15. TYPED NAME, GRADE AND TITLE:

HENRY D. DREHER
Major, Infantry
Commanding

16. SIGNATURE AND DATE OF RECOMMENDATION



10 June 1968



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT
THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY HAS AWARDED
THE ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

TO

MAJOR JACK O. JOHNSON O77484 ARTILLERY UNITED STATES ARMY

FOR

MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT

IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM ON 16 APRIL 1968

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND IN THE CITY OF WASHINGTON

THIS FIFTEENTH DAY OF JULY 19 68



ROBERT R. WILLIAMS
MAJOR GENERAL, UNITED STATES ARMY
COMMANDING

Stanley R. Resor
SECRETARY OF THE ARMY





THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TO ALL WHO SHALL SEE THESE PRESENTS, GREETING:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT
THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AUTHORIZED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER, 24 AUGUST 1962
HAS AWARDED

THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

TO

LIEUTENANT COLONEL JACK O. JOHNSON, 077 484, ARTILLERY

FOR

MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT

IN GROUND OPERATIONS AGAINST HOSTILE FORCES

IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM DURING THE PERIOD 10 DECEMBER 1967 TO 10 JUNE 1968

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND IN THE CITY OF WASHINGTON

THIS TWENTY-SECOND DAY OF JANUARY 1969

Melvin Zais
MELVIN ZAIS
Major General, USA
Commanding
101st Airborne Division



Stanley R. Resor
SECRETARY OF THE ARMY



C I T A T I O N

BY DIRECTION OF THE PRESIDENT
THE LEGION OF MERIT

is presented to

LIEUTENANT COLONEL JACK O. JOHNSON, 077484, FIELD
ARTILLERY, UNITED STATES ARMY

Lieutenant Colonel Johnson distinguished himself by exceptionally meritorious service in positions of great responsibility during the period of 16 October 1967 through 16 September 1968 while serving consecutively as Commanding Officer, 188th Assault Helicopter Company and Executive Officer, 159th Assault Support Helicopter Battalion, 101st Airborne Division. Through the application of dynamic leadership, rare foresight, sound principles of maintenance and logistics management, Colonel Johnson overcame and minimized the multitude of complex problems inherent in providing aviation support to units in the III Corps and I Corps Tactical Zones. He displayed a unique ability to foresee problem areas and to effect prompt and preventive actions which resolved operational difficulties, providing exemplary support which materially advanced the overall missions of the 25th Infantry and 101st Airborne Divisions. The unusually conscientious manner in which he devoted his time and effort to develop a responsive organization to provide effective light and medium helicopter support to the 101st Airborne Division, represents an outstanding achievement in the most esteemed traditions of the military service. Lieutenant Colonel Johnson's decisiveness of purpose, deep devotion to duty, and exceptional record of achievement are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the 101st Airborne Division, and the United States Army.





THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TO ALL WHO SHALL SEE THESE PRESENTS, GREETING:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT
THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AUTHORIZED BY ACT OF CONGRESS, JULY 2, 1926, HAS
AWARDED

THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS
(FIRST OAK LEAF CLUSTER)
TO

LIEUTENANT COLONEL JACK O. JOHNSON, 077 484, ARTILLERY

FOR HEROISM

WHILE PARTICIPATING IN AERIAL FLIGHT

IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM ON 9 DECEMBER 1967

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND IN THE CITY OF WASHINGTON
THIS TWENTY-SEVENTH DAY OF OCTOBER 19 68

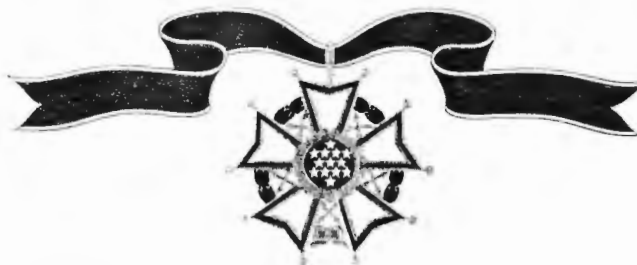
Melvin Zais

MELVIN ZAIS
Major General, USA
Commanding
101st Airborne Division



Stanley R. Resor

SECRETARY OF THE ARMY



THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TO ALL WHO SHALL SEE THESE PRESENTS, GREETING:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT
THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AUTHORIZED BY ACT OF CONGRESS JULY 20, 1942
HAS AWARDED

THE LEGION OF MERIT

TO

LIEUTENANT COLONEL JACK O. JOHNSON, 077484, FIELD
ARTILLERY, UNITED STATES ARMY

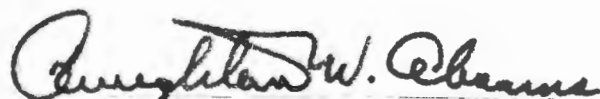
FOR

EXCEPTIONALLY MERITORIOUS CONDUCT
IN THE PERFORMANCE OF OUTSTANDING SERVICES

IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM - OCTOBER 1967 TO SEPTEMBER 1968

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND IN THE CITY OF WASHINGTON

THIS 6th DAY OF MAY 1969


CREIGHTON W. ABRAMS

General, United States Army
Commanding




SECRETARY OF THE ARMY



Citation

**BY DIRECTION OF THE PRESIDENT
THE AIR MEDAL
(TWENTY-FOURTH THRU THIRTY-NINTH OAK LEAF CLUSTER)
IS PRESENTED TO**

LIEUTENANT COLONEL JACK O. JOHNSON, 077 484, ARTILLERY

For distinguishing himself by meritorious achievement while participating in sustained aerial flight in support of combat ground forces of the Republic of Vietnam during the period

24 October 1967 to 22 July 1968

During this time he actively participated in twenty-five aerial missions over hostile territory in support of counterinsurgency operations. During all of these missions he displayed the highest order of air discipline and acted in accordance with the best traditions of the service. By his determination to accomplish his mission in spite of the hazards inherent in repeated aerial flights over hostile territory and by his outstanding degree of professionalism and devotion to duty, he has brought credit upon himself, his organization, and the military service.