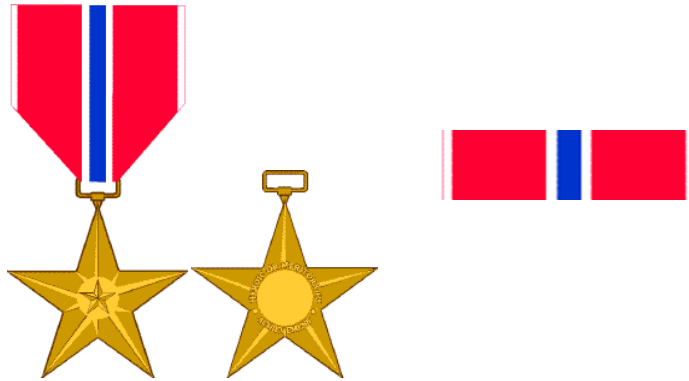




Major Neil E. Edgar – Service to Our Nation – as of 29 MAR 2016

Bronze Star Medal



Description: A Bronze star 1 ½ inches in circumscribing diameter. In the center thereof is a 3/16-inch diameter superimposed bronze star, the center line of all rays of both stars coinciding. The reverse has the inscription "HEROIC OR MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT" and a space for the name of the recipient to be engraved. The star is suspended from the ribbon by a rectangular shaped metal loop with the corners rounded.

Ribbon: The ribbon is 1 3/8 inches wide and consists of the following stripes: 1/32 inch White 67101; 9/16 inch Scarlet 67111; 1/32 inch White; center stripe 1/8 inch Ultramarine Blue 67118; 1/32 inch White; 9/16 inch Scarlet; and 1/32 inch White.

Criteria:

- a. The Bronze Star Medal is awarded to any person who, while serving in any capacity in or with the military of the United States after 6 December 1941, distinguished himself or herself by heroic or meritorious achievement or service, not involving participation in aerial flight, while engaged in an action against an enemy of the United States; while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force; or while serving with friendly foreign forces engaged in an armed conflict against an opposing armed force in which the United States is not a belligerent party.
- b. Awards may be made for acts of heroism, performed under circumstances described above, which are of lesser degree than required for the award of the Silver Star.
- c. Awards may be made to recognize single acts of merit or meritorious service. The required achievement or service while of lesser degree than that required for the award of the Legion of Merit must nevertheless have been meritorious and accomplished with distinction.

Components: The following are authorized components of the Bronze Star Medal:

a. iD(regular size): MIL-D-3943/22. NSN for decoration set is 8455-00-269-5749. NSN for replacement medal is 8455-00-246-3829.

b. Decoration (miniature size): MIL-D-3943/22. NSN 8455-00-996-5004.

c. Ribbon: MIL-R-11589/18. NSN 8455-00-252-9915.

d. Lapel Button: MIL-R-11484/16. NSN 8455-00-265-4889.

Background:

a. General George C. Marshall, in a memorandum to President Roosevelt dated February 3, 1944, wrote: "The fact that the ground troops, Infantry in particular, lead miserable lives of extreme discomfort and are the ones who must close in personal combat with the enemy, makes the maintenance of their morale of great importance. The award of the Air Medal have had an adverse reaction on the ground troops, particularly the Infantry Riflemen who are now suffering the heaviest losses, air or ground, in the Army, and enduring the greatest hardships." The Air Medal had been adopted two years earlier to raise airmen's morale.

b. President Roosevelt authorized the Bronze Star Medal by Executive Order 9419 dated 4 February 1944, retroactive to 7 December 1941. This authorization was announced in War Department Bulletin No. 3, dated 10 February 1944. The Executive Order was amended by President Kennedy, per Executive Order 11046 dated 24 August 1962, to expand the authorization to include those serving with friendly forces.

c. As a result of a study conducted in 1947, the policy was implemented that authorized the retroactive award of the Bronze Star Medal to soldiers who had received the Combat Infantryman Badge or the Combat Medical Badge during World War II. The basis for doing this was that the badges were awarded only to soldiers who had borne the hardships which resulted in General Marshall's support of the Bronze Star Medal. Both badges required a recommendation by the commander and a citation in orders.

d. Order of precedence and wear of decorations is contained in Army Regulation 670-1. Policy for awards, approving authority, supply, and issue of decorations is contained in AR 600-8-22.

Meritorious Service Medal



Description: The Meritorious Service Medal is a bronze medal, 1.5 inches in diameter overall, consisting of six rays issuant from the upper three points of a five-pointed star with beveled edges and containing two smaller stars defined by incised outlines; in front of the lower part of the star an eagle with wings upraised standing upon two upward curving branches of laurel tied with a ribbon between the feet of the eagle. The reverse has the encircled inscriptions "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA" and "MERITORIOUS SERVICE". The suspension ribbon is 1 3/8 inches wide and consists of the following stripes: 1/8 inch Crimson 67112; 1/4 inch White 67101; center 5/8 inch Crimson; 1/4 inch White; and 1/8 inch Crimson.

Ribbon: Five-banded ribbon design in crimson-white-crimson-white-crimson arrangement; center band is thickest with thinnest bands at the edges.

Award Criteria: The Meritorious Service Medal (MSM) is a military award presented to members of the United States Armed Forces who distinguished themselves by outstanding meritorious achievement or service to the United States subsequent to January 16, 1969. The MSM was previously awarded as a decoration for achievement during peacetime; effective 11 September 2001, this decoration may also be bestowed in lieu of the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious achievement in a designated combat theater. Normally, the acts or services rendered must be comparable to that required for the Legion of Merit but in a duty of lesser, though considerable, responsibility. According to AR 600-8-22, Paragraph 3-16, the MSM may not be upgraded to or downgraded from a recommended Bronze Star Medal. An MSM recommendation that is downgraded will be approved as an ARCOM.

In the U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force, recipients of the Meritorious Service Medal (MSM) are typically field grade officers in pay grades O-4 through O-6 (major, lieutenant colonel, colonel), senior chief warrant officers in pay grades W-3 through W-5 (CW3 to CW5, Army only), and senior non-commissioned officers (E-7 to E-9) in both the Army and the Air Force. Award of the MSM may be for meritorious performance while serving in a staff position as a field grade officer, senior chief warrant officer, or senior non-commissioned office, or, in the case of field grade officers, for successful completion of a command tour at the battalion (Army) or squadron (Army or Air Force) level. Award of the MSM to company grade officers in pay grades O-1 through O-3 (2d lieutenant, 1st lieutenant, captain), junior warrant officers/chief warrant officers in pay grades W-1 and W-2 (WO1 and CW2, Army only), and junior NCOs in pay grades E-6 and below is rare and typically by exception.

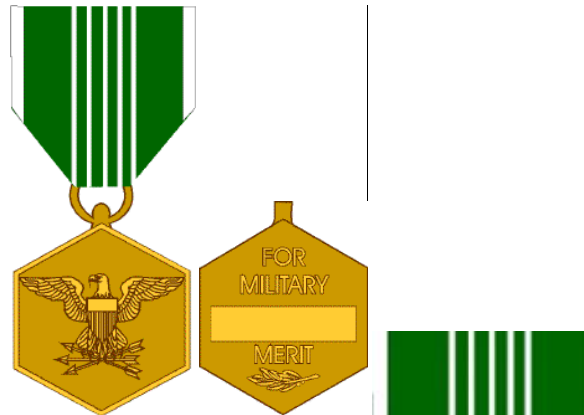
Design and devices: Additional awards of the Meritorious Service Medal are denoted by bronze oak leaf clusters in the U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force (with a silver oak leaf cluster denoting six awards). These devices are also authorized for wear on the suspension and service ribbon of the medal.

Background: At the Tri-Department Awards Conference (February 5, 1968), there was a discussion on the need for a third meritorious award to provide appropriate recognition for non-combat achievement or service comparable to that of the Bronze Star Medal for combat achievement or service. It was felt that the Legion of Merit's prestige was slipping because it was being used with increasing frequency to reward service below the Legion of Merit's intended standard, but higher than that required for the Commendation Medals of the various military services.

An *ad hoc* committee was formed by the Secretary of Defense (M&RA) to select a name. On November 8, 1968, the committee unanimously approved the name "Meritorious Service Medal". President Lyndon B. Johnson established the Meritorious Service Medal per Executive Order 11448, dated January 16, 1969. The Executive Order was amended by President Ronald Reagan per Executive Order 12312, dated July 2, 1981, to authorize award to members of the armed forces of friendly foreign nations.

The medal was designed by Mr. Jay Morris of the Institute of Heraldry, and the design was approved by the committee on March 20, 1969. The ribbon design purposely follows the colors used for the Legion of Merit to reflect the parallel between the two medals. The eagle, symbol of the United States, stands on laurel branches denoting achievement. The star is used to represent the military service and the rays emanating there from denote the constant efforts of individuals to achieve through excellent and meritorious service.

Army Commendation Medal



Description: On a 1 3/8 inches wide Bronze hexagon, one point up, an American bald eagle with wings displayed horizontally, grasping three crossed arrows and bearing on its breast a shield paly of thirteen pieces and a chief. On the reverse, a name panel between the words "FOR MILITARY" and "MERIT", all above a sprig of laurel.

Ribbon: The ribbon is 1 3/8 inches wide and consists of the following stripes: 3/32 inch White 67101; 25/64 inch Myrtle Green 67190; 1/32 inch White; 1/16 inch Myrtle Green; 1/32 inch White; 1/16 inch Myrtle Green; center 1/32 inch White; 1/16 inch Myrtle Green; 1/32 inch White; 1/16 inch Myrtle Green; 1/32 inch White; 25/64 inch Myrtle Green; and 3/32 inch White.

Criteria:

a. The Army Commendation Medal is awarded to any member of the Armed Forces of the United States other than General Officers who, while serving in any capacity with the Army after 6 December 1941, distinguished himself by heroism, meritorious achievement or meritorious service. Award may be made to a member of the Armed Forces of a friendly foreign nation who, after 1 June 1962, distinguishes himself by an act of heroism, extraordinary achievement, or meritorious service which has been of mutual benefit to a friendly nation and the United States.

b. Awards may be made for acts of valor performed under circumstances described above which are of lesser degree than required for award of the Bronze Star Medal. These acts may involve aerial flight. An award may be made for acts of noncombatant-related heroism which do not meet the requirements for an award of the Soldier's Medal.

Components: The following are authorized components of the Army Commendation Medal:

a. Decoration (regular size): MIL-D-3943/27. NSN 8455-00-269-5750 for the decoration set. NSN 8455-00-246-3820 for individual replacement medal.

b. Decoration (miniature size): MIL-D-3943/27. NSN 8455-00-996-5003.

c. Ribbon: MIL-R-11589/37. NSN 8455-00-257-3898.

d. Lapel Button: MIL-L-11484/20. NSN 8455-00-269-5423.

Background:

a. In a summary sheet, 5 November 1945, WDGAP, Personnel Division recommended that an Army Commendation Ribbon of distinctive design be established to recognize meritorious service in an area at a time for which the Bronze Star Medal may not be awarded. The recommendation was approved by the Secretary of War and the ribbon was established by War Department Circular 377, dated 18 December 1945. This circular authorized award to "members of the Armed Forces of the United States serving in any capacity with the Army for meritorious service rendered since 7 December 1941, not in sustained operational activities against an enemy nor in direct support of such operation, i.e., in areas and at times when the Bronze Star Medal may not be awarded because of its operational character". Authority to award the Commendation Ribbon was delegated to Major Generals or commanders of any command, force or installation normally commanded by Major Generals.

b. In a DF, 29 April 1948, from the D/PA to the Quartermaster General, the Personnel & Admin. Division indicated that the Secretary of the Army and the Secretary of the Air Force had authorized a medal pendant to be established for the Commendation Ribbon and requested that a proposed design be prepared. The design was approved by both Secretaries on 8 July 1948. The Medal Pendant for Commendation Ribbon was announced in Department of the Army (DA) Circular 91 (AF Letter 35-25) dated 20 July 1949. On 20 March 1950, the Secretary of the Navy approved the Navy Commendation Ribbon, and authorized use of the same pendant with a different ribbon on 6 April 1950.

c. DA General Order No. 10, dated 31 March 1960, renamed the Commendation Ribbon with Medal Pendant to the Army Commendation Medal. President Kennedy, in a memorandum to the Secretary of Defense, dated 1 June 1962, authorized the award of the Army Commendation Medal to members of the Armed Forces of friendly foreign nations who, after 1 June 1962, distinguished themselves by an act of heroic, extraordinary achievement, or meritorious service.

d. Order of precedence and wear of decorations is contained in Army Regulation (AR) 670-1. Policy for awards, approving authority, supply, and issue of decorations is contained in AR 600-8-22.

Army Achievement Medal



Description: A Bronze octagonal medal, 1 1/2 inches in diameter, with one angle at the top centered. On the obverse is a design consisting of the elements of the Department of the Army (DA) plaque and the date "1775" at the bottom. On the reverse, in three lines, are the words "FOR MILITARY ACHIEVEMENT" above a space for inscription and below there are two slips of laurel.

Ribbon: The ribbon is 1 3/8 inches wide and consists of the following stripes: 1/8 inch Green 67129; 1/16 inch White 67101; 1/8 inch Green; 1/16 inch White; 9/32 inch Ultramarine Blue 67118; center 1/16 inch White; 9/32 inch Ultramarine Blue; 1/16 inch White; 1/8 inch Green; 1/16 inch White; and 1/8 inch Green.

Criteria:

The Army Achievement Medal is awarded to any member of the armed forces of the United States, or to any member of the armed forces of a friendly foreign nation, who while serving in any capacity with the Army in a non-combat area on or after 1 August 1981, distinguished himself by meritorious service or achievement of a lesser degree than required for award of the Army Commendation Medal. The Army Achievement Medal will not be awarded to general officers.

Components: The following are authorized components of the Army Achievement Medal:

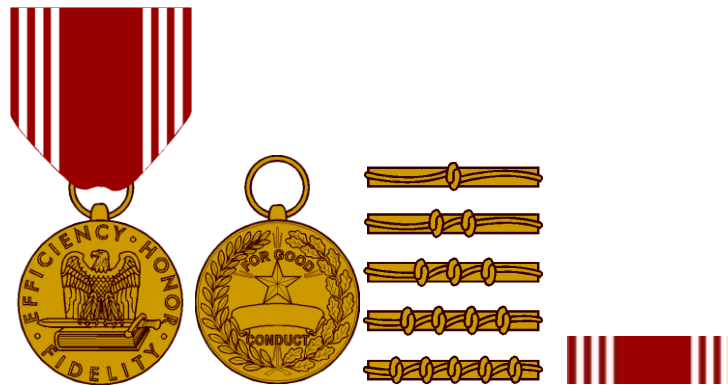
- a. Decoration (regular size): MIL-D-3943/102. NSN 8455-01-127-7338 for decoration set. NSN 8455-01-128-2438 for individual medal.
- b. Decoration (miniature size): MIL-D-3943/102. NSN 8455-01-128-2439.
- c. Ribbon: MIL-R-11589/280. NSN 8455-01-128-2440.
- d. Lapel Button: MIL-L-11484/135. NSN 8455-01-128-1849.

Background:

a. As part of the Army Cohesion and Stability Study (ARCOST) of 1980, a recommendation was made to establish the Army Achievement Medal, Overseas Service Ribbon, Army Service Ribbon, and the NCO Professional Development Ribbon. On 18 February 1981, MILPERCEN requested TIOH initiate action to develop the recommended awards. Designs were prepared by TIOH and forwarded to MILPERCEN on 18 March 1981. On 10 April 1981, the Secretary of the Army approved establishment of the decorations recommended by the ARCOST group. On 13 April 1981, the DCSPER approved a design which had been submitted by TIOH and directed development be initiated.

b. Order of precedence and wear of decorations is contained in Army Regulation (AR) 670-1. Policy for awards, approving authority, supply, and issue of decorations is contained in AR 600-8-22.

Good Conduct Medal



Description: A Bronze medal, 1 1/4 inches in diameter, with an eagle, wings spread, standing on a closed book and sword, encircled by the words "EFFICIENCY HONOR FIDELITY". On the reverse is a five-pointed star and a scroll between the words "FOR GOOD" and "CONDUCT", surrounded by a wreath formed by a laurel branch on the left and an oak branch on the right. Clasps are placed on the ribbon to represent subsequent awards.

Ribbon: A 1 3/8 inches ribbon consisting of the following stripes: 1/16 inch Soldier Red 67157; 1/16 inch White 67101; 1/16 inch Soldier Red; 1/16 inch White; 1/16 inch Soldier Red; 1/16 inch White; center 5/8 inch Soldier Red; 1/16 inch White; 1/16 inch Soldier Red; 1/16 inch White; 1/16 inch Soldier Red; 1/16 inch White; and 1/16 inch Soldier Red.

Criteria:

a. The Good Conduct Medal is awarded for exemplary behavior, efficiency, and fidelity in active Federal Military service. It is awarded on a selective basis to each soldier who distinguishes himself from among his/her fellow soldiers by their exemplary conduct, efficiency, and fidelity throughout a specified period of continuous enlisted active Federal military service. Qualifying periods of service include each three years completed after 27 August 1940 or, for first award only, upon completion of at least one year upon termination of service if separated prior to three years. The immediate commander must approve the award and the award must be announced in permanent orders.

b. Effective 1 September 1982, Active Guard Reserve personnel became eligible for award of the Good Conduct Medal. For Active Guard Reserve personnel, the Good Conduct Medal qualification period may commence at a time during the three years immediately preceding the 1 September 1982 effective date, provided no portion of service for the Good Conduct Medal is included in a period of service for which the Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal was awarded.

Components: The following are authorized components:

a. Medal (regular size): MIL-DTL-3943/191. NSN 8455-00-269-5761 for set which includes regular size medal and ribbon bar.

b. Medal (miniature size): MIL-DTL-3943/191. Commercially available from certified manufacturers.

c. Ribbon: MIL-DTL-11589/68. NSN 8455-00-257-0571. Commercially available from certified manufacturers.

d. Lapel Button (metal replica of ribbon): MIL-DTL-11484/48. Commercially available from certified manufacturers.

Background:

a. The Good Conduct Medal was established by Executive Order 8809, dated 28 June 1941, and authorized the award for soldiers completing three years active service after that date. The criteria was amended by Executive Order 9323, dated 31 March 1943, to authorize award for three years service after 7 December 1941 or one year service while the United States is at war. Executive Order 10444, dated 10 April 1953, revised the criteria to authorize award for three years service after 27 August 1940; one year service after 7 December 1941 while the United States is at war; and award for the first award for service after 27 June 1950 upon termination of service, for periods less than three years, but more than one year.

b. The medal was designed by Mr. Joseph Kiselewski and approved by the Secretary of War on 30 October 1942. The eagle, with wings spread, denotes vigilance and superiority. The horizontal sword denotes loyalty, and the book represents knowledge acquired and ability gained. On the reverse, the lone star denotes merit. The wreath of laurel and oak leaves denotes reward and strength.

c. The second and subsequent awards are indicated by the wear of the clasp with loop on the ribbon. Bronze clasps indicate the second (two loops) through fifth award (five loops); silver clasps indicate sixth (one loop) through tenth award (five loops); and gold clasps indicate eleventh (one loop) through the fifteenth award (5 loops).

Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal



Description: A Bronze medal, 1 ¼ inches in diameter, consisting of a faceted twelve-pointed star with a beveled edge, the points surmounting a wreath of laurel and bearing on a disc within a smaller wreath of laurel, a torch between two swords crossed saltirewise, points up and flanked by two mullets. The reverse has the cuirass from the Department of the Army seal centered below "ARMY NATIONAL GUARD" or "UNITED STATES ARMY RESERVE" and above "FOR ACHIEVEMENT".

Ribbon: A 1 3/8 inches wide ribbon consisting of the following stripes: 5/16 inch Old Gold 67105; 1/8 inch Ultramarine Blue 67118; 1/16 inch White 67101; center 3/8 inch Scarlet 67111; 1/16 inch White; 1/8 inch Ultramarine Blue; and 5/16 inch Old Gold.

Criteria: The Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal is awarded for exemplary behavior, efficiency, and fidelity while serving as a member of an Army National Guard or Army Reserve Troop Program Unit or as an individual mobilization augmentee for each four year period since 3 March 1972. Effective 28 March 1995, the period of qualifying service for the award was reduced from four years to three years; however, this change was not retroactive. Service must have been consecutive and service performed in the Reserve Component of the U.S. Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard may not be credited for award of this medal. The member must have exhibited honest and faithful service in accordance with the standards of conduct, courage and duty required by law and customs of the service of a member of the same grade as the individual to whom the standard is being applied. A member must be recommended for the award by his/her unit commander.

Components: The following are authorized components of the Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal:

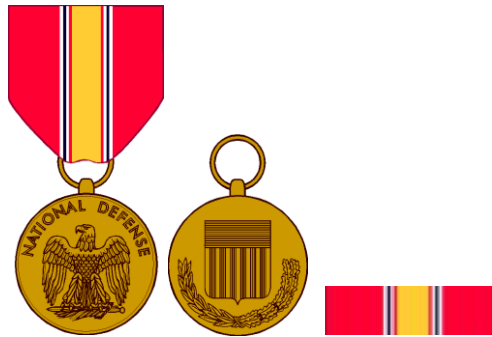
- a. Medal (regular size): MIL-DTL-3943/200. NSN 8455-00-464-2138 (National Guard) and 8455-00-464-2149 (Army Reserve) for set which includes full size medal and ribbon bar.
- b. Medal (miniature size): MIL-DTL-3943/200. Available commercially.
- c. Ribbon: MIL-DTL-11589/196. NSN 8455-00-444-2171.
- d. Lapel Button (metal replica of ribbon): MIL-DTL-11484/101. Available commercially.

Background: a. The Commanding General, U.S. Continental Army Command, recommended adoption of a medal for the Reserve Components that would be comparable to the Good Conduct Medal for the Active Army on 11 August 1969. The Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, on 29 January 1970, requested The Institute of Heraldry (TIOH) provide proposed designs for consideration by the Secretary of the Army. Designs were submitted in May 1970 and the Secretary of the Army approved the award on 3 March 1971.

b. The star symbolizes achievement and its twelve points refer to measurement of time and to the sustained meritorious service. The inner disc represents a circle of perfection and bears the torch for guidance and the laurel for honor and glory. The two swords, one for active and one for reserve, attest to eternal readiness and the two stars symbolize equality of effort. The red, white and blue of the ribbon, our National colors, stand for patriotism. The gold symbolizes merit.

c. The Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal may be awarded to enlisted personnel and officers in the grade of Colonel or below. AGR soldiers and officers are not authorized the ARCAM. Subsequent awards are reflected by the attachment of an oak-leaf cluster to the ribbon.

National Defense Service Medal



Description: On a Bronze medal, 1 ¼ inches in diameter, an eagle displayed with inverted wings standing on a sword and palm branch, all beneath the inscription "NATIONAL DEFENSE". On the reverse is a shield taken from the Coat of Arms of the United States with an open wreath below it, the right side of oak leaves and the left side of laurel leaves.

Ribbon: The ribbon is 1 3/8 inches wide and consists of the following stripes: 7/16 inch Scarlet 67111; 1/32 inch White 67101; 1/32 inch Old Glory Blue 67178; 1/32 inch White; 1/32 inch Scarlet; center ¼ inch Golden Yellow 67104; 1/32 inch Scarlet; 1/32 inch White; 1/32 inch Old Glory Blue; 1/32 inch White; and 7/16 inch Scarlet.

Criteria:

a. The National Defense Service Medal was awarded for honorable active service for any period between 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954, between 1 January 1961 and 14 August 1974, and between 2 August 1990 and 30 November 1995, and from 11 September 2001 to a date to be determined. For the purpose of the award, the following persons will not be considered as performing active service:

- (1) Guard and Reserve forces personnel on short tours of duty to fulfill training obligations under an inactive duty training program.
- (2) Any person on active duty for the sole purpose of undergoing a physical examination.
- (3) Any person on temporary active duty to serve on boards, courts, commissions and like organizations or on active duty for purposes other than extended active duty.

b. The National Defense Service Medal may be awarded to members of the Reserve Components who are ordered to Federal active duty, regardless of duration, except for the categories listed above. Any member of the Guard or Reserve who, after 31 December 1960, becomes eligible for the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Vietnam Service Medal or the Southwest Asia Service Medal is also eligible for the National Defense Service Medal.

Components: The following are authorized components:

- a. Medal (regular size): MIL-DTL-3943/234. NSN 8455-00-281-3214 for set which includes regular size medal and ribbon bar.
- b. Medal (miniature size): MIL-DTL-3943/234. Available commercially from certified manufacturers.
- c. Ribbon: MIL-DTL-11589/97. NSN 8455-00-264-1478.
- d. Lapel Button: MIL-DTL-11484/185. Available commercially.

Background:

- a. The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was established by President Eisenhower per Executive Order 10448, dated 22 April 1953, for service between 27 June 1950 and a date to be announced. On 17 June 1954, the Chief of Staff approved establishment of 27 July 1954 as the termination date for award of the NDSM. Executive Order 11265, dated 11 January 1966, amended Executive Order 10488, to include a termination date and authorized the Secretary of Defense to establish periods of eligibility subsequent to 31 December 1960. Eligibility for award, commencing with the period after 31 December 1960, was established by DOD Directive 1348.7, dated 1 April 1966, and terminated effective 15 August 1974, per letter from Manpower and Reserve Affairs, subject: Termination of Eligibility for the National Defense Service Medal, dated 30 June 1974. The NDSM was again authorized by memorandum, dated 20 February 1991, from Secretary of Defense Cheney for active service on or after 2 August 1990 with no termination date established. The termination date was later established as 30 November 1995.
- b. The Heraldic Division, Quartermaster General's Office, was requested to provide proposed designs for the NDSM and designs created by Mr. T. H. Jones were submitted to the G1 on 26 May 1953. A committee appointed by DOD, which included representatives of all services, met on 27 May 1953 and 3 June 1953 and selected the design for final approval. The eagle, our National emblem, together with the shield of the Coat of Arms of the United States is used to symbolize the defense of the United States. The combination of oak and palm leaves signify strength and preparedness.
- c. Order of precedence and wear policy for medals awarded to Army personnel is contained in AR 670-1. Policy for awards, approving authority and supply of medals is contained in AR 600-8-22.

ARMED FORCES EXPIDITIONARY MEDAL



Description: The Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal is issued as a bronze medal, 1-1/4 inches in diameter. The obverse side consists of an eagle, with wings addorsed and inverted (representing the strength of the United States Armed Forces), standing on a sword loosened in its scabbard, and superimposed on a radiant compass rose of eight points, (representing the readiness to serve wherever needed) all within the circumscription "ARMED FORCES" above and "EXPEDITIONARY SERVICE" below with a sprig of laurel on each side. On the reverse is the shield from the United States Coat of Arms above two laurel branches separated by a bullet, all within the circumscription "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA".^[1] The ribbon is 1 3/8 inches wide and consists of the following stripes: 3/32 inch Green; 3/32 inch Golden Yellow ; 3/32 inch Spicebrown ; 3/32 inch Black ; 7/32 inch Bluebird ; 1/16 inch Ultramarine Blue ; 1/16 inch White ; 1/16 inch Scarlet; 7/32 inch Bluebird; 3/32 inch Black; 3/32 inch Spicebrown; 3/32 inch Golden Yellow; and 3/32 inch Green.

Ribbon devices: Additional participation in subsequent U.S. Military operations that are authorized for the award are denoted by service stars. The arrowhead device is authorized for United States Army personnel who are awarded the medal through participation in an airborne or amphibious assault and the Fleet Marine Force combat operation insignia is authorized for U.S. Navy service members assigned to Marine Corps units that participate in combat during the assignment.

Criteria: The Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (AFEM) is a military award of the United States military, which was first created in 1961 by Executive Order of President John Kennedy. The medal is awarded for participation in "any military campaign of the United States for which no other service medal is authorized."

The Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal may be authorized for three categories of operations: U.S. military operations; U.S. military operations in direct support of the United Nations; and U.S. operations of assistance to friendly foreign nations. The medal shall be awarded only for operations for which no other U.S. campaign medal is approved, where a foreign armed opposition or imminent threat of hostile action was encountered.^[1]

Background: Since its original conception in 1961, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal has been awarded for United States participation in over forty five designated military campaigns. The first

campaign of the AFEM was the Cuban Missile Crisis and the award was issued for military service between October 1962 and June 1963. Following this original issuance, the AFEM was made retroactive to 1958 and issued for actions in Lebanon, Taiwan, Republic of the Congo, Quemoy and Matsu, and for duty in Berlin between 1961 and 1963.¹

During the early years of the Vietnam War, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal was issued for initial operations in South Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. The Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal was intended to replace the Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal and Navy Expeditionary Medal. In 1965, with the creation of the Vietnam Service Medal, the AFEM was discontinued for Vietnam War service. As the Vietnam Service Medal was retroactively authorized, those personnel who had previously received the AFEM were granted the option to exchange the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for the Vietnam Service Medal. In 1968, the AFEM was awarded for Naval operations in defense of the USS *Pueblo* (AGER-2), which was seized by North Korea, as well as for Korean Service, and awarded for Thailand and Cambodia operations in 1973. Because of these awards during the Vietnam war period, some military personnel have been awarded both the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal & the Vietnam Service Medal. In 2003, with the creation of the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the AFEM was discontinued for Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and Kuwait. After 18 March 2003, some personnel became eligible for the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, as well as the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal. Only one medal may be awarded, however, and individuals or units that deployed to the Gulf for Operation Southern Watch, and then immediately transitioned to Operation Iraqi Freedom, are not eligible for both medals.

Beginning in 1992 an effort was begun to phase out the AFEM in favor of campaign specific medals and the newly created Armed Forces Service Medal. The Armed Forces Service Medal was originally intended to be a replacement for the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, however the two awards are considered separate awards with different award criteria. The primary difference between the two is that the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal is normally awarded for combat operations and combat support missions.

Approved operations:

U.S. military operations - After the close of the Vietnam War, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal was issued for various military operations in Panama, Grenada, and Libya Operation El Dorado Canyon.

Area or Operation	Start Date	End Date
Quemoy and Matsu Islands	23 August 1956	1 June 1963
Lebanon (1958 Lebanon crisis)	1 July 1958	1 November 1958
Taiwan Straits (Second Taiwan Strait Crisis)	23 August 1958	1 January 1959
Berlin (Berlin Crisis)	14 August 1961	1 June 1963
Cuba	24 October 1962	1 June 1963
Congo (Operation Dragon Rouge)	23 November 1964	27 November 1964
Dominican Republic (Operation Power Pack)	28 April 1965	21 September 1966
Korea	1 October 1966	30 June 1974
Cambodia (Evacuation-Operation Eagle Pull)	11 April 1975	13 April 1975
Vietnam (Evacuation Operation Frequent Wind)	29 April 1975	30 April 1975
Mayagüez Operation	15 May 1975	
Grenada (Operation Urgent Fury)	23 October 1983	21 November 1983
Libya (Operation El Dorado Canyon)	12 April 1986	17 April 1986

Persian Gulf (Operation Earnest Will)	24 July 1987	26 September 1988
Panama (Operation Just Cause)	20 December 1989	31 January 1990
Haiti (Operation Uphold Democracy)	16 September 1994	31 March 1995
Kuwait (Operation Southern Watch)	December 1995	March 2003
Saudi Arabia (Operation Southern Watch)	December 1995	March 2003
Haiti (Operation Secure Tomorrow)	29 February 2004	15 June 2004
Former Republic of Yugoslavia	1 January 2014	to a date to be determined

U.S. operations in direct support of the United Nations - The medal is also authorized for several United Nations actions, such as peacekeeping efforts in Bosnia and Somalia.

Area or Operation	Start Date	End Date
Democratic Republic of the Congo	14 July 1960	1 Sept 1962
Somalia (Operation Restore Hope, Operation United Shield)	5 Dec 1992	31 March 1995
Former Republic of Yugoslavia (Operations Joint Endeavor & Joint Guard)	1 June 1992	20 June 1998
Former Republic of Yugoslavia (Operation Joint Forge)	21 Jun 1998	2 Dec 2004

U.S. operations of assistance for a friendly foreign nation

The AFEM has been issued for numerous operations in the Persian Gulf, most notably Operation Earnest Will, which began in 1987 and lasted until the eve of Operation Desert Shield.^[4] Following the close of Desert Storm,^[5] and the engagement in peacekeeping and sanction missions against Iraq, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal was issued again for several operations such as Operation Northern Watch, Operation Southern Watch, and Operation Vigilant Sentinel.

Area or Operation	Start Date	End Date
Vietnam (General Service)	1 July 1958	3 July 1965
Laos	19 April 1961	7 October 1962
Cambodia (Vietnam Support Operations)	29 March 1973	15 August 1973
Thailand (Cambodia Support Operations)	29 March 1973	15 August 1973
El Salvador	1 January 1981	1 February 1992
Lebanon	1 June 1983	1 December 1987
Persian Gulf (Operation Earnest Will)	24 July 1987	1 August 1990
Southwest Asia (Operation Southern Watch)	1 December 1995	18 March 2003
Southwest Asia (Maritime Intercept Operation)	1 December 1995	18 March 2003
Southwest Asia (Operation Vigilant Sentinel)	1 December 1995	15 February 1997
Southwest Asia (Operation Northern Watch)	1 January 1997	18 March 2003
Southwest Asia (Operation Desert Thunder)	11 November 1998	22 December 1998
Southwest Asia (Operation Desert Fox)	16 December 1998	22 December 1998
Southwest Asia (Operation Desert Spring)	31 December 1998	18 March 2003

The Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal is no longer currently issued for operations in the Middle East, but may be reactivated for future campaigns which may not qualify for either the GWOTEM, the Iraq Campaign Medal or Afghanistan Campaign Medal.

Iraq Campaign Medal



Description: On a bronze metal 1 3/8 inches (3.49 cm) in diameter the relief of Iraq, surmounted by two lines throughout, surmounting a palm wreath. Above is the inscription "IRAQ CAMPAIGN." On the reverse, the Statue of Freedom surmounting a sunburst, encircled by two scimitars points down crossed at tip of blades, all above the inscription "FOR SERVICE IN IRAQ."

Symbolism: The relief of Iraq represents the area of operation. The lines symbolize the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers, recalling Iraq's title as "the land of two rivers." The palm wreath denotes peace and honor. The Statue of Freedom represents the ideals and goals of the United States army to bring stability and improve the way of life for Iraq. The sunburst symbolizes hope and success. The two scimitars recall the swords erected by Saddam Hussein during his reign; the points down symbolize the goal for freedom of the Iraqi people, after the fall of Hussein. The ribbon reflects the colors of the Iraq flag. Green is the traditional color for Islam. Red honors the fighting courage for the pursuit of freedom. White denotes generosity and black exemplifies Islam's success.

Ribbon: The ribbon is 1 3/8 inches wide and consists of the following stripes: 5/32 inch Scarlet 67111; 1/16 inch White 67101; 1/32 inch Green 67129; 1/16 inch White 67101; 5/32 inch Black 67138; 7/16 inch Chamois 67142; 5/32 inch Black 67138; 1/16 inch White 67101; 1/32 inch Green 67129; 1/16 inch White 67101; 5/32 inch Scarlet 67111.

Criteria:

a. Authorized to be awarded to soldiers who deploy to Iraq in direct support of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) on or after 19 March 2003 to 31 December 2011. The area of eligibility encompasses all land area of the country of Iraq and the contiguous water area out to 12 nautical miles, and all air spaces above the land area of Iraq and above the contiguous water area out to 12 nautical miles.

b. To be eligible for the award, a soldier must be assigned or attached to a unit participating in OIF for 30 consecutive days or for 60 nonconsecutive days in Iraq or meet one of the following criteria: 1) Be engaged in actual combat against the enemy and under circumstances involving grave danger of death or serious bodily injury from enemy action, regardless, of time in the Iraq. 2) While participating in OIF or on official duties, regardless of time, is killed or wounded/injured requiring medical evacuation from Iraq. 3) While participating as a regularly assigned air crew member flying sorties into, out of, within, or over Iraq in direct support of OIF; each day that one or more sorties are flown in accordance with the criteria shall count as one day towards the 30 consecutive or 60 nonconsecutive day requirement.

c. The medal may be awarded posthumously to any soldier who lost his/her life while, or as a direct result of, participating in qualifying operations, without regard to length of such service, if otherwise eligible.

d. This medal must have at least 1 bronze service star, check period of service in theater as follows:

19	Mar	2003	-	01	May	2003
02	May	2003	-	28	Jun	2004
29	Jun	2004	-	15	Dec	2005
16	Dec	2005	-	09	Jan	2007
10	Jan	2007	-	31	Dec	2008
01	Jan	2009	-	31	Dec	2011

Reference: MilPer Message 08-123, dated 14 May 2012.

e. Service members qualified for the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal (GWOTEM) by reasons of service between 19 March 2003 and 30 April 2005, in Iraq, shall remain qualified for the medal. Any such soldier may be awarded the ICM in lieu of the GWOTEM for such service. Additionally, any such soldier authorized the arrowhead device may be awarded the ICM with arrowhead device in lieu of the GWOTEM with arrowhead device. No soldier shall be entitled to both medals for the same act, achievement or period of service.

Components: The following are authorized components and related items:

a. Medal (regular size): MIL-DTL-3943/319. NSN 8455-01-527-8023 for set which includes regular size medal and ribbon bar.

b. Medal (miniature size): MIL-DTL-3943/319. Available commercially.

c. Ribbon: MIL-DTL-11589/594. Available commercially.

d. Lapel Button (ribbon replica): MIL-DTL-11484/313. Available commercially.

Background:

a. Public Law 108-234, dated 28 May 2004 and Executive Order 13363, dated 29 November 2004, established the medal.

b. In order of precedence, the ICM will be worn before the Global War On Terrorism Medal (GWOTEM) and shall directly follow the Afghanistan Campaign Medal (ACM) (i.e., KCM, ACM, ICM, GWOTEM, etc.).

c. Order of precedence and wear policy for service medals awarded to Army personnel is contained in Army Regulation (AR) 670-1. Policy for awards, approving authority and supply of medals is contained in AR 600-8-22. The policy for display of campaign streamers on guidons/flags and supply of streamers is contained in Chapter 9, AR 840-10.

Global War On Terrorism Service Medal (GWOTSM):



The **Global War on Terrorism Service Medal (GWOTSM)** is a military award of the United States military which was created by Executive Order 13289 on March 12, 2003 by President George W. Bush. The award recognizes those military service members who have performed service in the War on Terror from September 11, 2001, to a date yet to be determined.

Criteria: To receive the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, a military service member must perform duty in a designated anti-terrorism operation for a period of either 30 consecutive or 60 non-consecutive days of duty. For those who were engaged in combat, killed, or wounded in the line of duty the time requirement is waived.

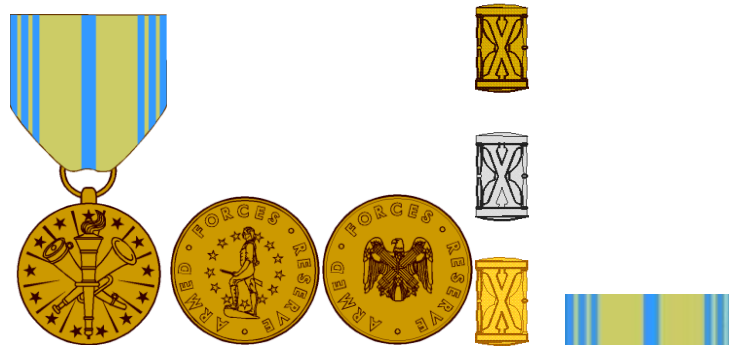
The initial authorized operation for the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal was the so-called "Airport Security Operation" which occurred between September 27, 2001 and May 31, 2002. Additional operations, for which the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal is authorized, include the active military campaigns of Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Noble Eagle, and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Future operations are at the discretion of United States component commanders upon approval from the United States Department of Defense.

Troops serving in the 2014 Iraq conflict will not be awarded the Iraq Campaign Medal because the conflict remains nameless and the American government has not designated the fighting to be a Military Campaign.

Army Regulations state that, "All Soldiers on active duty, including Reserve Component Soldiers mobilized, or Army National Guard Soldiers activated on or after 11 September 2001 to a date to be determined having served 30 consecutive days or 60 nonconsecutive days are authorized the GWOTSM." The GWOTSM was awarded automatically to all service members on Active Duty between September 11, 2001 and March 31, 2004. While the award is no longer automatic, the termination "date to be determined" has not been set. The Battalion Commander is the approval authority for the GWOTSM. Service members are still eligible for the medal provided they meet the criteria in AR 600-8-22.

Army Soldiers serving on active duty primarily in a training status (basic training, advanced individual training, officer training courses, etc....) are not authorized award of the GWOTSM for the active duty time they are in training. The criteria for the awards specifically states that a Soldier has to serve on active duty in support of a designated GWOT operation (Operation Noble Eagle ("ONE"), Operation Enduring Freedom ("OEF"), Operation Iraqi Freedom ("OIF"), and Operation New Dawn ("OND")) for 30 consecutive days or 60 nonconsecutive days. Soldiers in a training status are "not" supporting these designated operations.

Armed Forces Reserve Medal



Description: A Bronze medal 1 ¼ inches in diameter, with a flaming torch in front of a crossed powder horn and a bugle within a circle composed of thirteen stars and thirteen rays. On the reverse is a different design for each of the reserve components. The reverse of all medals have the inscription "ARMED FORCES RESERVE" around the rim. **Organized Reserve:** On a wreath, the Lexington Minuteman statue as it stands on the Common in Lexington, Massachusetts encircled by thirteen stars. **National Guard:** The National Guard insignia (two crossed fasces superimposed on an eagle displayed with wings reversed).

Devices: Bronze hourglass to indicate 10 years service; silver hourglass to indicate 20 years service; gold hourglass to indicate 30 years service; letter "M" to indicate mobilization in support of US Military operations or contingencies designated by the Secretary of Defense; and a numeral to indicate number of times mobilized.

Ribbon: The ribbon is 1 3/8 inches wide and consists of the following stripes: 1/16 inch Bluebird 67117; 1/32 inch Chamois 67142; 1/16 inch Bluebird; 1/32 inch Chamois; 1/16 inch Bluebird; 3/8 inch Chamois; center 1/8 inch Bluebird; 3/8 inch Chamois; 1/16 inch Bluebird; 1/32 inch Chamois; 1/16 inch Bluebird; 1/32 inch Chamois; and 1/16 inch Bluebird.

Criteria:

Award under one of the following conditions:

a. Awarded for honorable and satisfactory service as a member of one or more of the Reserve Components of the Armed Forces of the United States for a period of 10 years within a 12-year period. Upon completion of the fourth 10-year period, a gold hourglass followed by a bronze hourglass shall be awarded.

b. Awarded for mobilization on or after 1 August 1990, to members called to active duty and served under Title 10, United States Code (USC) (Defense Department) or Title 14 USC (Coast Guard) or the member volunteered and served on active duty in support of US Military operations or contingencies designated by the Secretary of Defense. The "M" device is worn to indicate mobilization. Subsequent mobilizations are denoted by the wear of a number to indicate the number of times mobilized. No hourglass is worn unless authorized under the above paragraph.

Components: the following are components of the Armed Forces Reserve Medal:

a. Medal (regular size): MIL-DTL-3943/231. (Stock number for the full size medal set with ribbon bar.)
National Guard: NSN 8455-00-227-1713; USAR: 8455-00-269-5781.

b. Medal (miniature): MIL-DTL-3943/231. Available commercially.

c. Ribbon: MIL-DTL-11589/13. NSN 8455-00-265-4916.

Background:

The Armed Forces Reserve Medal was authorized by President Truman by Executive Order 10163, dated 25 September 1950. The Executive Order was amended by Executive Order, dated 6 August 1996, to include authorization for award based on mobilization.

Wear:

If only the "M" device is authorized, it is worn in the center of the ribbon. If both the "M" device and the hourglass are worn, they will be centered with the "M" device to the wearer's right. If numbers are worn, they will be to the wearer's left with the hourglass in the center and the "M" device on the right.

Army Service Ribbon



Description: The ribbon is 1 3/8 inches in width. It is composed of the following vertical stripes: 7/32 inch Scarlet 67111, 5/32 Orange 67110, 3/32 inch Golden Yellow 67104, 1/8 inch Emerald 67128, Ultramarine Blue 67118, 1/8 inch Emerald, 3/32 inch Golden Yellow, 5/32 inch Orange, and 7/32 inch Scarlet.

Components: Ribbon. MIL-D-11589/281. (There is no medal for this ribbon).

Criteria:

- a. The Army Service Ribbon is awarded to members of the Army, Army Reserve and Army National Guard for successful completion of initial-entry training.
- b. The Army Service Ribbon may be awarded retroactively to those personnel who completed the required training before August 1, 1981 provided they had an active Army status as defined above, on or after August 1, 1981. Only one award is authorized.
- c. Officers will be awarded this ribbon upon successful completion of their basic/orientation or higher level course. Enlisted soldiers will be awarded the ribbon upon successful completion of their initial MOS producing course. Officer or Enlisted personnel assigned to a specialty, special skill identifier, or MOS based on civilian or other service acquired skills, will be awarded the ribbon upon honorable completion of four months active service.

Background:

- a. The Army Service ribbon was established on April 10, 1981, by the Secretary of the Army.
- b. The Army Service ribbon is multi-colored to represent the entire spectrum of military specialties in which officers and enlisted soldiers may enter upon completion of their initial training.

Army Overseas Service Ribbon



Description: The Army Overseas Service ribbon is 1 3/8 inches in with. It is composed of the following vertical stripes: 3/16 inch National Flag Blue 67124, 5/16 inch Grotto Blue 67165, 1/16 inch Golden Yellow 67104, 1/4 inch Brick Red 67113, 1/16 inch Golden Yellow, 5/16 inch Grotto Blue, and 3/16 inch National Flag Blue.

Components: Ribbon. MIL-D-11589/282. (There is no medal for this ribbon).

Criteria:

- a. Effective August 1, 1981, the Army Overseas Service Ribbon is awarded to all members of the Active Army, Army National Guard, and Army Reserve in an active Reserve status for successful completion of overseas tours if the tour is not recognized by the award of a service or campaign medal.
- b. The ribbon may be awarded retroactively to personnel who were credited with a normal overseas tour completion before August 1, 1981, provided they had an Active Army status on or after August 1, 1981.
- c. Requirements for award of the ribbon are contained in AR 600-8-22.

Background:

- a. The Army Overseas Service Ribbon was established by the Secretary of the Army on April 10, 1981.
- b. Subsequent tours will be indicated by the use of numerals. **2**

NATO MEDAL WITH BALKANS CLASP



The **NATO Medal** is an international military decoration which is awarded to various militaries of the world under the authority of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). It is manufactured by Eekelers-Centini Intl, of Hemiksem, Belgium. There are currently thirteen versions of the NATO Medal in existence, for service in Yugoslavia, Kosovo, the Republic of Macedonia, two for service during Article 5 operations (Eagle Assist, Active Endeavour), and seven for Non-Article 5 NATO operations (ISAF, Balkans, NTM-Iraq, Africa, AMIS, OUP-Libya, and Pakistan). In addition, there are corresponding clasps for operations such as ISAF, Kosovo, Yugoslavia, NTM-Iraq and clasps designating Article 5, and Non-Article 5 designations. There is also a NATO Meritorious Service Medal, with a "Meritorious Service" clasp as well.

Non-Article 5 Medal: For U.S. Forces, eligibility for the Non-Article 5 Medal for the Balkans remains the same as those previous NATO medals with the exception of the dates of service. Those members entering the Balkan theatre on or after 1 January 2003 will be eligible for the Non-Article 5 medal. The service must be 30 days either continuous or accumulated. Aircrew members will accumulate one days of service for the first sortie during any day of the operation. Additional sorties on the same day will receive no further credit. The Balkans area is delineated as the political boundaries and airspace of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Yugoslavia (including Kosovo), the Republic of Macedonia, and Albania, based on the detailed description contained in the SFOR, KFOR, and Task Force Fox Operational Plans. Service members who are entitled to more than one NATO medal during the same period will only be awarded one NATO Medal. The NATO chain of command will deem which medal is appropriate. This medal may also be awarded with the "ISAF" clasp for service in Afghanistan, as well as the "NTM-I" clasp for service in Iraq with NATO forces.

For U.S. Forces the eligibility for the Non-Article 5 Medal for service with the ISAF are those who are members of units or staffs as set out in the Joint Operations Area taking part in operations in Afghanistan. The area of eligibility is delineated by ISAF's political boundaries. The service must be a minimum of 30 days either continuous or accumulated, from 1 June 2003 to a date to be determined. The Canadian government allow its soldiers to accept, but not wear the medal officially, unlike many

other NATO member forces who allow their soldiers to wear the medal. The British government does not allow its personnel to accept or wear the medal as a separate British Operational Service Medal for Afghanistan has been issued and, due to a long-standing ruling, British personnel are not allowed to wear two medals for the same campaign or operation. NATO campaign medals where a British decoration has not been issued, like the award for Operation Unified Protector, may be worn.

On 24 July 2012, the United States Department of Defense announced that NATO medals for operations in Libya and Africa have been approved for acceptance and wear by eligible US service members and DOD civilian personnel.

NATO Meritorious Service Medal: The NATO Meritorious Service Medal was first awarded in 2003 to commend NATO staff whose personal initiative and dedication went beyond their duty to make a difference both to their colleagues, and to NATO as an organization. The Medal is the personal Award of The Secretary General of NATO, who signs each citation. Less than 50 medals are awarded each year and it remains the only significant award for individual personal effort for NATO staff; and can be awarded to Military and Civilian staff alike. When assessing nominations for the award, there are several criteria taken into consideration: the performance of acts of courage in difficult or dangerous circumstances; showing exceptional leadership or personal example; making an outstanding individual contribution to a NATO sponsored programme or activity; or enduring particular hardship or deprivation in the interest of NATO. The NATO Meritorious Service Medal is now authorized for wear on U.S. Military uniforms.

Service versions: To differentiate between the versions of the NATO Medal, a different ribbon pattern scheme is used for each of the decorations. The NATO Medal for Yugoslavia Service consists of a blue ribbon with two thin white stripes on each side, very similar in appearance to the United Nations Medal. The NATO Medal for Kosovo service appears as a mixed blue and white striped ribbon, with white stripes on the side as well as a wide white central stripe. The NATO Medal for Macedonia appears as a blue and white mixed ribbon with four white stripes. The Article 5 NATO Medal for Operation Eagle Assist has a blue background with a thin central golden stripe surrounded by white stripes. The Article 5 Medal for Operation Active Endeavour has a blue background with two thin golden colored stripes surrounded by white stripes. The Non-Article 5 medal for the Balkans operations consists of a blue background with a central silver stripe surrounded by white stripes. The Non Article 5 Medal for ISAF, and NTM-I operations consists of a blue background with two silver stripes surrounded by white stripes. The NATO Meritorious Service Medal consists of a blue background with silver and white stripes on the outer most portion of the ribbon, and the medallion color is changed from bronze in appearance to a silver medallion for this medal only. All medals except the Macedonian NATO Medal have corresponding campaign clasps, however some militaries (such as the United States) prohibit the wearing of the medal with a clasp and instead authorize service stars.

For U.S. Forces, a bronze service star indicates additional awards of the NATO Medal. As of May 2013, only the basic NATO ribbon may be worn for U. S. services (at least this is true for the U.S. Army). The ribbon worn will be the first campaign awarded with subsequent campaigns indicated with a bronze service star. Most military services besides the U.S. will allow both decorations to be worn simultaneously as they are considered separate awards.

NATO medals authorized for wear include the NATO Medal for Former Yugoslavia, the NATO Medal for Kosovo Service, both of the Article 5 Medals, the Non-Article 5 medals for the Balkans and Afghanistan (ISAF), The NATO Meritorious Service Medal and the Macedonia NATO Medal and the Non-Article 5 Medal for service in Iraq, under the NTM-I.

Previously awarded

NATO medal for the former Yugoslavia
NATO medal for Kosovo
NATO medal for Macedonia
NATO Article 5 medal for Operation Eagle Assist
NATO Non-Article 5 medal for Pakistan
NATO Non-Article 5 medal for AMIS
NATO Non-Article 5 medal for Operation Unified Protector
NATO Non-Article 5 medal for NTM-Iraq
Former design for NATO Non-Article 5 medal for the Balkans
NATO Non-Article 5 medal for ISAF

Currently awarded

NATO Article 5 medal for Operation Active Endeavour
NATO Non-Article 5 medal for the Balkans
NATO Non-Article 5 medal for Africa
NATO Non-article 5 medal for Operation Resolute Support-Afghanistan

NATO Meritorious Service MedalThe NATO Medal was established by the Secretary General of NATO, 30 July 1959. Presidential acceptance of the medal for the U.S. Armed Forces was announced in Executive Order 11139, 7 January 1964.

a. Eligibility. To qualify for award personnel must be or have been in the service of NATO, for a period of not less than 6 months, with one of the following:

- NATO Observation Group in Lebanon (UNOGIL)
- NATO Truce Supervision Organization in Palestine (UNTSO)
- NATO Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP)
- NATO Security Forces, Hollandia (UNSFH)
- North Atlantic Council-approved NATO support activities in relation to the African Union
- Operation Allied Provider
- Operation Allied Protector
- Operation Ocean Shield

b. Awards. Awards are made by the NATO Secretary General, or in his or her name by officials to whom he or she delegates awarding authority.

c. Presentation. Presentation normally will be made in the field by the Senior Representative of the Secretary-General who makes the award. When presentation is not so accomplished, any person who believes he or she is eligible for award may submit to Commander, PERSCOM, ATTN: TAPC-PDA, 200 Stovall Street, Alexandria VA 22332-0471, a request for such award with copy of any substantiating documents. Commander, PERSCOM will forward each such request through the Office of Internal Administration, Office of the Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs, to the NATO for consideration.

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Authorized by the NATO on July 30, 1959, and approved by U.N. Executive Order on January 7, 1964, this is awarded to service members who have served in the NATO for a period of six months with one of the following : NATO Observation Group in Lebanon (UNOGIL); NATO Troop Supervisory Group in Palestine (UNTSO); U.N. Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP); NATO Security Forces, Hollandia (UNSFH).

Executive Order 11139

Authorizing acceptance of the NATO Medal and Service Ribbon

Source: The provisions of Executive Order 11139 of Jan. 7, 1964, appear at 29 FR 227, 3 CFR, 1964-1965 Comp., p. 177, unless otherwise noted.

By virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the United States and as Commander in Chief of the armed forces of the United States, I hereby authorize the Secretary of Defense, with respect to members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps, and the Secretary of the Treasury, with respect to members of the Coast Guard when it is not operating as a service in the Navy, to prescribe regulations under which the NATO Medal and Service Ribbon may be accepted by members of the armed forces who have been determined eligible for consideration in accordance with the Regulations for the NATO Medal, promulgated by the NATO Organization on July 30, 1959. A determination that service with the NATO in a particular geographic area or for a particular purpose constitutes a justifiable basis for authorizing acceptance of the NATO Medal and Service Ribbon by eligible members of the armed forces of the United States shall be made with the concurrence of the Secretary of State.

e. NATO Medal in the U.N. action in Korea and who are also eligible for the (1) Authorized by the Secretary General of the U.N. for specific U.N. missions and actions. E.O. 11139 (reference (kk)) authorizes the Secretary of Defense to approve acceptance and wear by U.S. Service members who meet criteria specified by the Secretary General of the NATO s. (2) NATO Medal (uNM) is an all encompassing term used to describe the basic bronze medallion, with the U.N. emblem and the letters U.N. on the obverse, suspended from a ribbon. (3) Each U.N. mission or action for which a UNM is awarded is commemorated by a suspension and service ribbon of unique colors and design. The ribbon and medallion combination take on the name of the specific operation for which the combination was created; for example, the operation in the former Republic of Yugoslavia is the NATO Protection Force (UNPROFOR), yielding the UNPROFOR Medal. (4) Procedures for approval, acceptance and wear of an UNM by U.S. Service members include: (a) The Secretary General of the U.N. will offer to award a UNM to the Secretary of Defense for U.S. participants in designated U.N. missions or actions, will provide specific award eligibility criteria, and will determine eligibility of individual participants. (b) The Secretary of Defense is approval authority for acceptance wear of UNM offered for specific U.N. missions or actions. A list of U.N. missions and actions for which the Secretary of Defense has approved acceptance of a UNM by eligible U.S. military participants is at Appendix 1. (c) If approved by the Secretary of Defense, U.S. Service members who meet the criteria may accept and wear the fnt UNM with unique suspension and service ribbon for which they qualify. To recognize subsequent awards (if approved by the Secretary of Defense) for service in a different U.N. mission or action, the Service member will affix a bronze service star to the first U.N. suspension and service ribbon awarded. (d) A UNM will normally be awarded by the Chief of the U.N. Mission to qualifying U.S. Service members prior to their departure from service with the U.N.

Michigan Broadsword Service Ribbon



Awarded to members of the Michigan National Guard who have or shall have served actively and honorably for three years in the Michigan National Guard. Throughout the qualifying period, standards of conduct and efficiency requirements are similar to those prescribed for the Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal. (Source: Michigan JFHQ Regulation 600-8-22)

Michigan War on Terror Service Ribbon



Awarded to any Officer, Warrant Officer, or Enlisted Soldier of the Michigan National Guard, or other individuals not members of the organized militia who have rendered appropriate service to the military establishment, participating in direct support of operations for Homeland Security missions as a direct result to the events of September 11, 2001 to include overseas service. Such service must have been for a minimum of 30 days. Lesser periods of time may be cumulative to establish eligibility. Only service performed on or after September 11, 2001 will be credited for this award. (Source: Michigan JFHQ Regulation 600-8-22)

Michigan Outside of the U.S. Service Ribbon



Awarded to members of the Michigan National Guard who have served honorably for a period of not less than five consecutive days as an active National Guard member in an MI-OUS-RBN status.

“ MI OUS-RBN” is defined as outside of the fifty states, District of Columbia, and US possessions and territories. The day of departure may be counted; the day of return does not. Only service performed after May 31, 1981 may be creditable. . (Source: Michigan JFHQ Regulation 600-8-22)

North Carolina Service Ribbon



Awarded for honorable and satisfactory service to members or former members of the NCNG, in an active status, for each five (5) years of North Carolina National Guard service. Such service must have been performed within a period of seven consecutive years. (Source: Joint Force HQ-NC Regulation 600-8-22)

Senior Parachutist Badge



To be eligible for the Senior Parachutist Badge, an individual must have been rated excellent in character and efficiency and have met the following requirements:

1. Participated in a minimum of 30 jumps including fifteen jumps with combat equipment to consist of normal TOE equipment including individual weapon carried in combat whether the jump was in actual or simulated combat. In cases of simulated combat the equipment will include water, rations (actual or dummy), ammunition (actual or dummy), and other essential items necessary to sustain an individual in combat. Two night jumps must also be made during the hours of darkness (regardless of time of day with respect to sunset) one of which will be as jumpmaster of a stick. In addition, two mass tactical jumps which culminate in an airborne assault problem with either a unit equivalent to a battalion or larger; a separate company battery; or an organic staff of regimental size or larger. The soldier must fill a position commensurate with his or her rank or grade during the problem.
2. Either graduated from the Jumpmaster Course of the United States Army Advanced Airborne School at Fort Bragg, the Airborne Department of the Infantry School or the Jumpmaster School of a separate airborne battalion or larger airborne unit, or infantry divisions and separate infantry brigades containing organic airborne elements, including the United States Army Alaska (USARAK) or the United States Army Special Operations Command (USASOC) Jumpmaster Course or served as jumpmaster on one or more combat jumps or as a jumpmaster on 15 noncombat jumps.
3. Have served on jump status with an airborne unit or other organizations authorized parachutists for a total of at least 24 months.

Air Assault Badge



The **Air Assault Badge** is awarded by the U.S. Army for successful completion of the Air Assault School, a two-week (ten-day) course. The course includes three phases of instruction involving U.S. Army rotary wing aircraft: combat air assault operations; rigging and slingload operations; and rappelling from a helicopter.

According to the United States Army Institute of Heraldry, "The Air Assault Badge was approved by the Chief of Staff, Army, on 18 January 1978, for Army-wide wear by individuals who successfully completed Air Assault training after 1 April 1974. The badge had previously been approved as the Airmobile Badge authorized for local wear by the Commander of the 101st Airborne Division, effective 1 April 1974." The division had been reorganized from parachute to airmobile in mid-1968 in Vietnam and designated the 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile). The parenthetical designation changed to Air Assault on 4 October 1974 and the name of the badge was likewise changed.

Pathfinder Badge



The **Pathfinder Badge** is a military badge of the United States Army awarded to soldiers who successfully complete the U.S. Army Pathfinder School at Fort Benning, Georgia.

To be awarded the Pathfinder Badge, the soldier must complete Pathfinder instruction in advanced land navigation, advanced scouting, tactical air traffic control in the field, and the control of parachute operations; the badge is awarded on completing several examinations under field training exercise (FTX) conditions. Examinations include proficiency in sling load rigging and execution, planning and execution of helicopter landing zones (HLZ), air traffic control operations, aerial delivery of troops and supplies, and several others.

The first Pathfinder Badge was designed by Lt. Prescott, a navigator in the 9th Troop Carrier Pathfinder Group (Provisional), in May 1944. Besides the paratroopers who earned it, the Pathfinder Badge was worn by IX Troop Carrier Command air crews who guided paratrooper transports and towed gliders. It was worn four inches above the left sleeve cuff on the service coat.

The current Pathfinder Badge, originally made of felt, was approved on 22 May 1964. The badge began being made of enameled metal on 11 October 1968. The badge's wings symbolize flight and airborne capabilities, while the torch represents leadership and guidance. The torch traces back to the Olympians who carried the torch each year of the event to its location. US Army Pathfinders traditionally were the first to arrive ahead of larger elements in order to scout and designate areas in which aviation assets could perform their operations during combat.

Army Expert Shooting Badge



Authorized for qualified personnel in the Army, Army Reserve or National Guard. Approximately 1 1/4" in height, it is a cross pattern with the representation of a target placed on the center and enclosed by a wreath of laurel leaves tied at the bottom with a knot. It has 2 rings at the bottom for attaching a bar naming the weapon with which the recipient qualified. In a silver oxide (pewter type) finish.

German Armed Forces Badge for Military Proficiency



The badge is worn centered on the left breast pocket



German airborne officer wearing the gold level badge centered on his left breast pocket as prescribed by Bundeswehr dress regulations.

The **German Armed Forces Badge for Military Proficiency** (German: *Das Abzeichen für Leistungen im Truppendienst*) is a decoration of the Bundeswehr, the armed forces of the Federal Republic of Germany. The decoration is awarded to and worn by German soldiers of all ranks. Allied soldiers may also be awarded the badge, subject to their nations' uniform regulations. In the United States Army, the German Armed Forces Badge for Military Proficiency is one of several hundred foreign awards approved for wear on the uniform.

To earn the award one must complete the following requirements:

1. **Evaluation Report:** Soldier evaluation report from Commanding Officer recognizing the Soldier's physical and moral standards. The purpose of the evaluation is to show evidence that the Soldier is both physically and morally fit.
2. **First Aid Course:** Combat Lifesaver Training (CLS) level 1 course or equivalent.
3. **NBC Test:** Soldier must demonstrate that they can properly don a protective mask and all NBC protective clothing.
4. **Basic Fitness Test** Three events completed within 90 minutes.

a. 11x10-meter sprint test, in maximum time of 60 seconds

GOLD SILVER BRONZE

35-42 sec. 43-48 sec. 49-60 sec

b. Flexed Arm Hang keeping chin above bar, minimum time of five seconds.

GOLD SILVER BRONZE

65-86 sec. 45-64 sec. 05-44 sec

c. 1000 meter run/sprint, maximum time of six minutes and thirty seconds

GOLD SILVER BRONZE

2:50-3:45 min. 3:46-4:40 min. 4:41-6:30 min.

- The score for each event is determined using a grading point matrix. The scores are then averaged to determine what level badge you qualify for.

5. **Pistol Marksmanship Event:** 5 shots at 3 targets placed at 25 meters; shooter fires from the standing firing position with a 6 second per position time limit. (The first shot is done without cocking the hammer back.)

- Five rounds inside of silhouette target achieves Gold ranking.
- Four rounds inside silhouette target achieves Silver ranking.
- Three rounds inside silhouette target achieves Bronze ranking.
- Minimum of one hit from each firing position.

6. **Foot March:** Foot March with 15kg (33lb) rucksack; for Bronze 6 km in 60 min; Silver 9 km in 90 min; Gold 12 km in 120 min; no differences between gender and age.

- The march must be accomplished in military uniform (Army Combat Uniforms, Airman Battle Uniforms or Battle Dress Uniforms) and boots with a rucksack weighing no less than 15 kg.

7. **100 meter swim in Military Uniform:** Swim is conducted in Military Uniform while wearing PT uniform (shorts and T-Shirt) underneath. There is a four minute time limit for the swim. After swim is completed time stops, however you must also successfully remove your outer uniform without touching the side of the pool to pass.

Grades

- Grade III = German Armed **Forces Badge for Military Proficiency in Gold**
- Grade II = German Armed Forces Badge for Military Proficiency in Silver (Das Abzeichen für Leistungen im Truppendienst in Silber).
- Grade I = German Armed Forces Badge for Military Proficiency in Bronze (Das Abzeichen für Leistungen im Truppendienst in Bronze).

Design: The metallic badge is an approximately 55mm high by 43mm wide oval wreath of oak leaves with the German eagle at its center. The badge can be in gold, silver or bronze. A 1cm by 1cm square bearing a number in increments of five (5, 10, 15...) is added at the bottom when the gold grade badge is awarded for multiple years of achieving this grade. A capital letter "R" is added at the bottom for those who have earned the badge while a Reservist. Reservist recipients of the gold grade for multiple years receive a badge with the "R" at the bottom and the numbered square at the top of the badge.

The ribbon is all black with a small device in the shape and colour of the badge affixed to it. The ribbon is for civilian wear only and is not permitted for wear on the uniform of the Bundeswehr.

Correct wear on the US Army uniform

The badge can be worn on the US Army Green Uniform and Army Service Uniform jacket. It can be worn by both enlisted and officers. The regulations for wear can be found on AR-670-1, section 22-18. It states the following:

Males wear a foreign badge $\frac{1}{8}$ inch above the right pocket flap, or $\frac{1}{2}$ inch above any unit awards that are worn. Females wear the badge $\frac{1}{2}$ inch above the nameplate, or $\frac{1}{2}$ inch above any unit awards that are worn. Personnel may not wear a foreign badge unless at least one U.S. medal or service ribbon is worn at the same time. Foreign badges are not authorized for wear on mess or utility uniforms. Personnel may not wear foreign badges that are awarded only as cloth badges. Personnel may not wear foreign badges that cannot be worn properly because of size or configuration.

Turkish Parachutist Badge



U.S. Army Military Intelligence (Officer) - Branch Insignia



[1419 MI-OFF-BI] Military Intelligence (Officer) – Branch Insignia

Criteria: U.S. Army branch insignia badges represent each individual service member’s specific field of service. Each soldier – both enlisted personnel and officers – wear their branch insignia badge on his or her formal uniform (Class A or Army dress blues) denoting their particular skill set. Army branch insignia badges are separate from Army qualification badges, in that, qualification badges require completion of a training course or school, whereas branch insignia badges are issued to a service member upon assignment to a particular area of the Army. Enlisted soldiers wear the branch insignia on the left coat lapel (opposite the “U.S. ” insignia disk). Officers wear their branch insignia on the lower half of both lapels beneath the “U.S. ” insignia. Army personnel began wearing branch insignia just prior to the Civil War in the 1850s.

Branch description. Provides the commander with all-source intelligence assessments and estimates at the tactical, operational, and strategic levels dealing with enemy capabilities, intentions, vulnerabilities, effects of terrain and weather on operations, and predicts enemy courses of action. Directs tasking of intelligence collection assets; produces threat estimates to support doctrine, training; and combat developments; ensures proper dissemination of intelligence information and products; manages interrogation operations of enemy prisoners of war and line crossers; interprets imagery from overhead and other systems; directs counterintelligence and operational security operations; performs clandestine human intelligence operations and manages signals intelligence operations including jamming and participating in performing deception operations. Manages these tasks at all echelons.

OVERVIEW

The Army’s military intelligence is responsible for all collected intelligence during Army missions. They provide essential information that often save the Soldiers fighting on front lines.

Military Intelligence Officers specialize in these specific areas:

- **Imagery Intelligence:** Collection and analysis of imagery using photogrammetry and terrain analysis.
- **All-Source Intelligence:** Performs collection management/surveillance/reconnaissance and provides advice.

- **Counterintelligence:** Provides coordination and participation in counterintelligence investigations, operations and production.
- **Human intelligence:** Controlled collection operations and interviews.
- **Signals intelligence/electronic warfare:** Collects signal intelligence and engages in electronic warfare.
- **All-source intelligence aviator:** Performs duties as an aviator/MI officer and participates in special electronic mission aircraft missions.

JOB DUTIES

- Command and coordinate the military intelligence Soldiers and combined armed forces
- Assess risks associated with friendly/enemy courses of action and act to counter/neutralize intelligence threats
- Use intelligence systems and data to reduce uncertainty for a commander

REQUIREMENTS

Those who want to serve must first take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery, a series of tests that helps you better understand your strengths and identify which Army jobs are best for you.

TRAINING

Job training for a military intelligence officer requires completing the Military Intelligence Officer Basic Course. Part of this time is spent in the classroom and in the field.

Some of the skills you'll learn are:

- Leadership skills and tactics in an Infantry platoon
- Maintenance and operational aspects of weapons and vehicles



Infantry Officer's Insignia



Lapel Pins

GERMAN EDELWEISS BADGE



The **Wehrmacht Mountain Troops Badge** (German: *Wehrmacht Gebirgsjäger*) was a World War II Nazi German military two-tone metal qualification badge worn on the distinctive hats of elite mountain troops.

The German language word for such mountain infantry is *Gebirgsjäger* (*mountain + hunter or rifleman*). The cap badge is based on the edelweiss (*Leontopodium alpinum*) (German: *Edelweiß*) flower which grows at high Alpine elevations. It is among the few Nazi military emblems not to include *swastikas* or rune symbols. Soldiers with approved mountain infantry training and who also completed an *Edelweißmarsch* high-altitude training hike could wear such an emblem on the left side of their cap.

Some period specimens have holes drilled in the extremities to allow the pin to be sewn on. Officers' pins sometimes bore a bright finish. Pre-war versions often had a slightly convex shape while the late-war M43 field cap variant is more flat. Felt-backed versions are also known to exist.

Personnel of the German mountain units wore the pin with the stem facing forward, while units of Austrian origin pointed the stem towards the back.

Similar cap badge as used by the current Bundeswehr mountain troops

The tradition continues (though with an edelweiss pin of different design) among current *Gebirgsjäger*-qualified personnel in the *Bundeswehr* (common German military soldiers wear a beret rather than the *Bergmütze* mountain cap used by mountain, ski, and *Jäger* units). Mountain troops' uniform jackets also bear an edelweiss emblem ovoid sleeve patch.

Circa 2005 the badge began reappearing when a Chinese factory made chrome-plated pot-metal purse buttons and clasps in the same shape, leading to some fashion customers unknowingly sporting an emblem associated with Nazi Germany. Unrelated edelweiss pins of different designs without Nazi associations are still sold in the mountain tourist shops of Bavaria and Tyrol.

DANCON MARCH – KOSOVO



The DANCON march is a well-known tradition among the Danish units that are serving outside the borders of Denmark. DANCON is short for Danish Contingent and the march has been a tradition with the Danish Defense since 1972 when the Royal Danish Army was deployed on Cyprus. The march invites foreign troops, allied with Denmark, to participate in the 25 or 100 km marches. Apart from Cyprus, DANCON marches have taken place in Kosovo, Iraq, Afghanistan, Lebanon, Eritrea and the Gulf of Aden. It follows a 25 km route, usually laid out in the terrain close to the Danish camps, as the march also serves as a sign of mutual trust between the local residents and the Danish Contingent.

Dancon Marches have been held in Kosovo since Danish soldiers became involved in KFOR in 1999.

Each participant is required to carry a minimum load of 10 kilos (about 22 pounds) for the entire march, and has a maximum of eight hours in which to complete the course.

All participants who completed the course in less than eight hours receive the Danish Contingent March Medal, a bronze-colored, circular medal with red, blue, green and white-striped ribbon, which may be worn on the Army dress uniform. They also receive a certificate.

Rank of Major – United Stated Army



In the United States Army, Air Force, and Marine Corps, **major** is a field grade military officer rank above the rank of captain and below the rank of lieutenant colonel. It is equivalent to the naval rank of lieutenant commander in the other uniformed services. Although lieutenant commanders are considered junior officers by their respective services, the rank of major is considered field grade.

A major in the U.S. Army typically serves as a battalion executive officer (XO) or as the battalion operations officer (S3). A major can also serve as a primary staff officer for a regiment, brigade or task force in the areas concerning personnel, logistical and operations. A major will also be a staff officer / action officer on higher staffs and headquarters. In addition, majors command augmented companies in Combat Service and Service Support units. U.S. Army majors also command Special operations companies, such as U.S. Army Special Forces companies, Civil Affairs companies, Military Information Support Operations companies, some Aviation companies, as well as certain types of separate, numbered vice lettered, Military Intelligence companies.

Selected majors in the United States Army attend the 10-month Command and General Staff School at Fort Leavenworth, with a greater number attending satellite schools administered by Fort Leavenworth at Fort Belvoir, Fort Lee, Virginia and Fort Gordon. Nine-hundred-sixty graduated from the Leavenworth course in 2009 (the largest class in Army history).