DoD Manual 1348.33, Volume 3

Manual of Military Decorations and Awards: DoD-Wide Personal Performance and Valor Decorations

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Approved by:	Todd A. Weiler, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower and Reserve Affairs

Purpose: This manual is composed of several volumes, each containing its own purpose. In accordance with the authority in DoD Directive 5124.02 and DoD Instruction (DoDI) 1348.33:

- This manual implements policy, assigns responsibilities, and provides procedures for managing the DoD Military Decorations and Awards Program.
- This volume provides detailed information and procedures regarding DoD-wide performance and valor awards (excluding the Medal of Honor and DoD Joint decorations and awards), including:
  - Award criteria for DoD-wide decorations and awards.
  - Eligibility requirements for DoD-wide decorations and awards.
  - Award authority for DoD-wide decorations and awards.
  - Authorized devices and appurtenances for DoD-wide decorations and awards.

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SECTION 1: GENERAL ISSUANCE INFORMATION

1.1. APPLICABILITY. This issuance applies to OSD, the Military Departments, the Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint Staff, the Combatant Commands, the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Defense, the Defense Agencies, the DoD Field Activities, and all other organizational entities within the DoD (referred to collectively in this issuance as the "DoD Components").

1.2. POLICY. It is DoD policy in accordance with DoDI 1348.33, that:

a. Service members serving in a DoD Component, through the DoD Military Decorations and Awards Program, will be recognized with the applicable personal military decoration (PMD) for qualifying acts of valor, non-combat heroism, or meritorious service or achievement.

b. No PMD, medal, or device in place thereof, may be awarded or presented to a person whose service after he or she distinguished himself or herself has not been honorable.

c. The decision to recommend an individual for a PMD must be performance-based. It must not be based solely on the completion of a tour of duty or deployment, nor based solely on grade.

d. A Service member who performs an act(s) of valor will be accorded appropriate recognition based solely on the merits of his or her actions. Grade will not be a factor in determining the type or level of recognition, nor will any quotas be established limiting the number of valor decorations that may be recommended or approved.

e. Recommendations for decorations and awards must be placed into official channels in accordance with statute, Executive orders (E.O.s), and regulatory guidance for that particular award.

f. DoD goals for initiating and processing valor award recommendations are:

(1) Military Departments initiate valor award recommendations within 45 days of the act justifying award. Timely initiation helps ensure witness statements and other evidence justifying award is collected as close to the date of the combat event as possible.

(2) Military Departments forward endorsed Medal of Honor recommendations to the Secretary of Defense within 12 months of award initiation.

(3) Secretaries of the Military Department concerned take final action on recommendations for Military Service Cross, Silver Star medal, and lower-level valor awards within 12 months of award initiation.

(4) Though better award initiation and processing timeliness are desired, the Department's preeminent goal is that all Service members who perform valorous acts receive appropriate recognition. The goals stated above must not be used to avoid processing any recommendation that is initiated within statutory or regulatory time limits. Whether an

individual award recommendation meets the DoD timeliness goals must not be a factor in determining the level of the award approved. The level of the decoration approved must be based solely on the merits of the act(s).

g. In general only one decoration or Service medal of the same type (PMD, campaign, expeditionary, service medal, or unit award) is authorized for the same act, achievement, or period of service.

(1) Receipt of a unit award or campaign, expeditionary, and service medal for a given period does not preclude an individual from receiving a PMD for the same period.

(2) A PMD for valor, heroism, or specific achievement within a longer period of meritorious service is not considered duplication, provided the citation for the meritorious service or the accompanying documentation justifying the award does not cite any of the actions for which the valor, heroism, or specific achievement award was earned.

(3) A PMD for deployed meritorious service (e.g., Bronze Star Medal (BSM)) within a longer period of service is not considered duplication, provided the citation for the meritorious service or the accompanying documentation justifying the award does not cite any of the actions for which the deployed meritorious service award was given.

h. Service members must be recognized for acts of valor with a military decoration for valor. Service members are not authorized to wear non-military decorations or awards specifically intended to recognize valorous actions on their military uniform.

i. Eligibility for the Purple Heart (PH) differs from other PMDs. An individual is entitled to the PH upon determination by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned that award criteria were met.

SECTION 2: RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR MANPOWER AND RESERVE AFFAIRS (ASD(M&RA)). Under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, the ASD(M&RA):

a. Develops and maintains procedures regarding DoD-wide PMDs and unit awards.

b. Ensures that the regulations, guidance, and issuances of the DoD Components conform to pertinent laws, E.O.s, regulations, and DoD policy.

2.2. DEPUTY CHIEF MANAGEMENT OFFICER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE. The Deputy Chief Management Officer of the Department of Defense will process all Legion of Merit award recommendations for eligible foreign personnel to the Secretary of Defense for consideration.

2.3. DIRECTOR, DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY. Under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence, the Director, Defense Intelligence Agency, will, upon the request of a Secretary of the Military Department, provide an intelligence assessment to support PH adjudication for attacks potentially meeting the requirements of Section 1129a of Title 10, United States Code (U.S.C.).

2.4. DIRECTOR, DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY. Under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, the Director, Defense Logistics Agency, procures and stocks DoD decorations and awards for procurement by the DoD Components.

2.5. SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS. The Secretaries of the Military Departments:

a. Establish procedures requiring their respective Departments to comply with pertinent laws, E.O.s, federal regulations, and the policies and procedures outlined in this volume.

b. Comply with the provisions of E.O. 3524 as they pertain to designing medals and insignia.

c. Ensure Military Department and Service award guidance (e.g., regulations, instructions, manuals) specifically reference this issuance.

d. Notify the ASD(M&RA) before awarding any PH medals pursuant to Section 1129a of Title 10, U.S.C.

e. Request that the ASD(M&RA) approve any changes to criteria or eligibility for the BSM, PH, or Meritorious Service Medal (MSM) within their respective departments.

f. Notify the Secretaries of the other Military Departments when an individual is nominated for a valor award for actions in a combat engagement that involved forces of the other Military Services.

2.6. SECRETARY OF THE ARMY. In addition to the responsibilities in Paragraph 2.5., the Secretary of the Army:

a. Upon request by the Secretary of another Military Department or the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, provides heraldic support for the design of flags, insignia, badges, medals, seals, decorations, guidons, streamers, final pieces for flagstaffs, buttons, buckles, awards, trophies, marks, emblems, rosettes, scrolls, braids, ribbons, knots, tabs, cords, and similar items as authorized by Section 4594 of Title 10, U.S.C.

b. Advises other federal departments and agencies on matters of heraldry.

c. Prescribes regulations providing for reimbursement for services furnished.

d. Acts on behalf of DoD in establishing regulations governing control in manufacture and quality of decorations.

SECTION 3: PROCEDURES FOR DOD-WIDE DECORATIONS AND AWARDS

3.1. MILITARY SERVICE CROSSES.

a. Introduction. The Military Service Crosses (Distinguished Service Cross – Army; Navy Cross – Navy and Marine Corps; and Air Force Cross – Air Force) are the second highest military decorations in precedence following the Medal of Honor. The Military Service Crosses are awarded to recognize extraordinary combat heroism not justifying award of the Medal of Honor.

b. Award Category. Personal Valor Decoration.

c. Award Criteria and Eligibility Requirements.

(1) In accordance with Sections 3742, 6242, and 8742 of Title 10, U.S.C., the President may award a Service Cross of appropriate design, with ribbons and appurtenances, to any person who, while serving in any capacity with the Army, Navy or Marine Corps, or Air Force, distinguishes himself or herself by extraordinary heroism not justifying the award of the Medal of Honor:

(a) While engaged in an action against an enemy of the United States;

(b) While engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force; or

(c) 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.

(2) The required heroism, while of a lesser degree than that required for award of the Medal of Honor, must nevertheless have been performed with marked distinction. The Service Cross is awarded for singular acts of valor or for extraordinary heroism over a very brief period, such as one or two days of a battle. The Service Cross will not be awarded for an accumulation of lesser acts of heroism over time, none of which by itself would justify this level of decoration. Nor will the Service Cross be awarded in recognition for any period of meritorious service, regardless of the scope or impact of such service.

(3) The heroic actions of each Military Service Cross nominee will be reviewed against Medal of Honor award criteria by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned to ensure the nominee's actions do not justify award of the Medal of Honor.

(4) In accordance with Sections 3744, 6249, and 8744 of Title 10, U.S.C., no Military Service Cross, or device in place thereof, may be awarded or presented to a person or their representative if the person's service after he or she distinguished him or herself was not honorable.

(5) In accordance with Sections 3744, 6248, and 8744 of Title 10, U.S.C., no Military Service Cross may be awarded to any person unless:

(a) A statement setting forth the act and recommending official recognition of it was made through official channels within 3 years from the date of the act. However, the Department's goal is for valor award recommendations to be initiated within 45 days of the act justifying award. Timely initiation helps ensure witness statements and other evidence justifying award is collected as close to the date of the combat event as possible.

(b) The award is made within 5 years after the date of the act justifying award. However, the Department's goal is for the Secretary of the Military Department concerned to act on Service Cross award recommendations within 12-months of award initiation.

(c) Though better award initiation and processing timeliness is desired, the Department's preeminent goal is that all Service members who perform valorous acts receive appropriate recognition. The goals stated above must not be used to avoid processing any recommendation that is initiated within statutory or regulatory time limits. Whether an individual award recommendation meets the DoD timeliness goals must not be a factor in determining the level of the award approved. The level of the decoration approved must be based solely on the merits of the act(s).

d. Foreign Military Personnel. The Military Service Crosses may be awarded to foreign military personnel.

e. Procedures.

(1) Each Military Department will prescribe appropriate regulations for administrative processing, awarding, and wearing of its associated Military Service Cross, ribbon, and appurtenances, which comply with pertinent laws, E.O.s, federal regulations, and the policies and procedures outlined in DoDI 1348.33 and this volume.

(2) Procedures for processing Military Service Cross recommendations for eligible foreign personnel will be in accordance with DoDI 1348.33.

f. Approval Authority. The Secretary of the Military Department concerned is the approval authority for that Department's respective Military Service Cross. For specific Military Department guidance, refer to:

(1) Army. See Army Regulation (AR) 600-8-22.

(2) Navy and Marine Corps. See the Secretary of the Navy Instruction (SECNAVINST) 1650.1 series.

(3) Air Force. See Air Force Instruction (AFI) 36-2803.

g. Posthumous Award. In accordance with Sections 3752, 6250, and 8752, of Title 10, U.S.C., the Military Service Crosses may be awarded posthumously.

h. Order of Precedence. Military Service Crosses are worn after the Medal of Honor and before the Defense Distinguished Service Medal.

i. Subsequent Awards.

(1) In accordance with Section 3744, 6247, and 8744, of Title 10, U.S.C., individuals are only presented a Military Service Cross medal upon initial award.

(2) Subsequent awards are denoted by wearing the appropriate device on the suspension and service ribbon of the medal.

j. Authorized Devices. Refer to the applicable Military Department regulation for specific guidance on the wear of authorized devices. Authorized devices are:

(1) Oak-leaf cluster (bronze or silver).

(2) 5/16 inch stars (gold or silver).

k. Illustration and Description. See Appendix 3A.

3.2. MILITARY DEPARTMENT DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDALS (DSM).

a. Introduction. The Military Department DSMs are awarded to recognize exceptionally meritorious service to the United States in a duty of great responsibility. Each Military Department's DSM has a unique design.

b. Award Category. PMD.

c. Award Criteria and Eligibility Requirements.

(1) In accordance with Sections 3743, 6243, and 8743 of Title 10, U.S.C., the President may award a DSM of appropriate design and a ribbon, together with a rosette or other device to be worn in place thereof, to any person who, while serving in any capacity with the Army, Navy or Marine Corps, or Air Force, distinguishes himself or herself by exceptionally meritorious service to the United States in a duty of great responsibility.

(2) The DSMs may be awarded with the "C" device to recognize exceptionally meritorious service or achievement performed under combat conditions on or after January 7, 2016. The award narrative must clearly show that the nominee was personally exposed to hostile action, or was at significant risk of exposure to hostile action:

(a) While engaged in action against an enemy of the United States;

(b) While engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force; or

(c) 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.

(3) In accordance with Sections 3744, 6248, and 8744 of Title 10, U.S.C., no DSM may be awarded to any person unless:

(a) The award is made within 5 years after the date of the service justifying award.

(b) A statement setting forth the act or distinguishing service, and recommending official recognition of it, was made through official channels within 3 years from the date of the act or service.

(4) In accordance with Sections 3744, 6249, and 8744 of Title 10, U.S.C., no DSM, or device in place thereof, may be awarded or presented to a member, or their representative if the member's service after he/she distinguished him/herself was not honorable.

d. Foreign Military Personnel. In accordance with DoD policy, the DSMs will not be awarded to foreign military personnel. The highest award for meritorious service or achievement that may be awarded to foreign personnel is the Legion of Merit in the appropriate degree.

e. Procedures. Each Military Department will prescribe appropriate regulations for administrative processing, awarding, and wearing of its associated DSM, ribbon, and appurtenances, which comply with pertinent laws, E.O.s, federal regulations, and the policies and procedures outlined in DoDI 1348.33 and this volume.

f. Approval Authority. The Secretary of the Military Department concerned is the approval authority for that Department's respective DSM. For specific Military Department guidance, refer to:

(1) Army. See AR 600-8-22.

(2) Navy and Marine Corps. See the SECNAVINST 1650.1 series.

(3) Air Force. See AFI 36-2803.

g. Posthumous Award. In accordance with Sections 3752, 6250, and 8752, of Title 10, U.S.C., the DSMs may be awarded posthumously.

h. Order of Precedence. The DSMs are worn after the Defense Distinguished Service Medal and before the Silver Star medal.

i. Subsequent Awards.

(1) In accordance with Section 3744, 6247, and 8744, of Title 10, U.S.C., individuals are only presented a DSM upon initial award.

(2) Subsequent awards are denoted by wearing the appropriate device on the suspension and service ribbon of the medal.

j. Authorized Devices. Refer to the applicable Military Department regulation for specific guidance on the wear of authorized devices. Authorized devices are:

(1) "C" Device.

(2) Oak-Leaf Cluster (bronze or silver).

(3) 5/16 Inch Stars (gold or silver).

k. Illustration and Description. See Appendix 3A.

3.3. SILVER STAR MEDAL (SSM).

a. Introduction. The SSM is awarded for gallantry in action that does not warrant award of a Medal of Honor or a Military Service Cross.

b. Award Category. Personal Valor Decoration.

c. Award Criteria and Eligibility Requirements.

(1) In accordance with Sections 3746, 6244, and 8746 of Title 10, U.S.C., the President may award an SSM of appropriate design, with ribbons and appurtenances, to any person who, while serving in any capacity with the Army, Navy or Marine Corps, or Air Force, distinguishes himself or herself by gallantry in action that does not warrant award of the Medal of Honor or a Military Service Cross:

(a) While engaged in an action against an enemy of the United States;

(b) While engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force; or

(c) 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.

(2) The required gallantry, while of a lesser degree than that required for award of a Military Service Cross, must nevertheless have been performed with marked distinction.

(3) The SSM is awarded for singular acts of valor or for heroism over a very brief period, such as one or two days of a battle. The SSM will not be awarded for an accumulation of lesser acts of heroism over time, none of which by itself would justify this level of decoration. Nor will the SSM be awarded in recognition for any period of meritorious service, regardless of the scope or impact of such service.

d. Foreign Military Personnel. The SSM may be awarded to members of the armed forces of friendly foreign nations for valorous acts in direct support of U.S. military operations.

e. Procedures.

(1) Each Secretary of the Military Department will prescribe appropriate regulations for administrative processing, awarding, and wearing of the SSM, ribbon, and appurtenances, which

comply with pertinent laws, E.O.s, federal regulations, and the policies and procedures outlined in DoDI 1348.33 and this volume.

(2) Procedures for processing SSM recommendations for eligible foreign personnel will be in accordance with DoDI 1348.33.

(3) To improve timeliness and efficiency, the Department has established the following goals regarding valor award recommendations:

(a) Valor award recommendations should to be initiated within 45 days of the act justifying award. Timely initiation helps ensure witness statements and other evidence justifying award is collected as close to the date of the combat event as possible.

(b) The Secretary of the Military Department should act on SSM award recommendations within 12-months of award initiation.

(c) Though better award initiation and processing timeliness is desired, the Department's preeminent goal is that all Service members who perform valorous acts receive appropriate recognition. The goals stated above must not be used to avoid processing any recommendation that is initiated within statutory or regulatory time limits. Whether an individual award recommendation meets the DoD timeliness goals must not be a factor in determining the level of the award approved. The level of the decoration approved must be based solely on the merits of the act(s).

f. Approval Authority. The Secretary of the Military Department concerned is the approval authority for award of the SSM to personnel serving in any capacity with his or her respective Military Department. For specific Military Department guidance, refer to:

(1) Army. Refer to AR 600-8-22.

(2) Navy. Refer to the SECNAVINST 1650.1 series.

(3) Air Force. Refer to AFI 36-2803.

g. Posthumous Award. The SSM may be awarded posthumously.

h. Order of Precedence. The SSM is worn:

(1) Army. After the Army DSM and before the Defense Superior Service Medal (DSSM).

(2) Navy and Marine Corps. After the Navy DSM and before the DSSM.

(3) Air Force. After the Air Force DSM and before the DSSM.

i. Subsequent Awards.

(1) Individuals are only presented a SSM upon initial award.

(2) Subsequent awards are denoted by wearing the appropriate device on the suspension and service ribbon of the medal.

j. Authorized Devices. Refer to the applicable Military Department regulation for specific guidance on the wear of authorized devices. Authorized devices are:

(1) Oak-Leaf Cluster (bronze and or silver).

(2) 5/16 Inch Stars (gold or silver).

k. Illustration and Description. See Appendix 3A.

3.4. LEGION OF MERIT (LOM).

a. Introduction. The LOM is awarded to Service members or members of the armed forces of friendly foreign nations who distinguish themselves by exceptionally meritorious conduct in performing outstanding services.

b. Award Category. PMD.

c. Award Criteria and Eligibility Requirements.

(1) In accordance with Section 1121 of Title 10, U.S.C., and as governed by E.O. 9260, the President may award a decoration called the "Legion of Merit" to any Service member or member of the armed forces of any friendly foreign nation who, after September 8, 1939, has distinguished himself or herself by exceptionally meritorious conduct in performing outstanding services.

(2) The LOM may be awarded for a specific achievement or for sustained meritorious conduct performing outstanding services.

(3) The performance must have been such as to merit recognition of key individuals for achievement or service rendered in a clearly exceptional manner.

(a) Performance of duties normal to the grade, branch, specialty, assignment, or experience of an individual is not an adequate basis for award.

(b) During peacetime, the term "key individual" applies to a narrower range of positions than would be the case in time of war and requires evidence of significant achievement. In peacetime, service should be in the nature of a special requirement or of an extremely difficult duty performed in an unprecedented and clearly exceptional manner. However, justification of the award may accrue by virtue of exceptionally meritorious service in a succession of important positions.

(4) The LOM may be awarded with the "C" device to recognize exceptionally meritorious service or achievement performed under combat conditions on or after January 7,

2016. The award narrative must clearly show that the nominee was personally exposed to hostile action or under significant risk of hostile action:

(a) While engaged in action against an enemy of the United States;

(b) While engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force; or

(c) 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.

(5) The LOM for specific achievement may be awarded with the "R" device to distinguish that the award was earned for the direct hands-on employment of a weapon system or other warfighting activities that had a direct and immediate impact on a combat operation or other military operation (i.e., outcome of an engagement or specific effects on a target), including Title 10, U.S.C., support of non-Title 10 operations, and operations authorized by an approved execute order. To be designated as such, the action must have been performed through any domain, in circumstances that did not expose the individual to hostile action; or place him or her at significant risk of exposure to hostile action on or after January 7, 2016, under one of the following conditions:

(a) While engaged in military operations against an enemy of the United States,

(b) While engaged in military operations involving conflict against an opposing foreign force; or

(c) While serving with friendly foreign forces engaged in military operations with an opposing armed force in which the United States is not a belligerent party.

(6) The LOM is awarded to Service members without degree.

d. Foreign Military Personnel. Members of the armed forces of friendly foreign nations may be awarded the LOM, in four varying degrees: Degree of Chief Commander; Degree of Commander; Degree of Officer; and Degree of Legionnaire. See DoDI 1348.33 for specific policy and procedures for awarding the LOM to eligible foreign military personnel.

e. Procedures.

(1) U.S. Military Personnel. Each Military Department will prescribe appropriate regulations for administrative processing, awarding, and wearing of the LOM, ribbon, and appurtenances, which comply with pertinent laws, EOs, federal regulations, and the policies and procedures outlined in DoDI 1348.33 and this volume.

(2) Foreign Military Personnel. Procedures for processing LOM recommendations for eligible members of the armed forces of friendly foreign nations are contained in DoDI 1348.33.

f. Approval Authority.

(1) U.S. Service Members. The Secretary of the Military Department concerned is the approval authority for award of the LOM to Service members in his or her respective Military Department.

(a) Army. Refer to AR 600-8-22.

(b) Navy and Marine Corps. Refer to the SECNAVINST 1650.1 series.

(c) Air Force. Refer to AFI 36-2803.

(2) Foreign Military Personnel. The Secretary of Defense is the approval authority for award of the LOM to eligible foreign personnel. See DoDI 1348.33 for specific policy and procedures for awarding the LOM to eligible foreign military personnel.

g. Posthumous Award. The LOM may be awarded posthumously.

h. Order of Precedence. The LOM is worn after the DSSM and before the Distinguished Flying Cross.

i. Subsequent Awards.

(1) U.S. Service Members

(a) Individuals are only presented a LOM upon initial award.

(b) Subsequent awards are denoted by wearing the appropriate device on the suspension and service ribbon of the medal.

(2) Foreign Military Personnel

(a) Subsequent award devices are not authorized for wear on LOM medals awarded to foreign personnel.

(b) Authorized foreign personnel who are awarded subsequent LOMs are presented another complete medal set.

j. Authorized Devices. Refer to the applicable Military Department regulation for specific guidance on the wear of authorized devices. Authorized devices are:

(1) “C” Device.

(2) “R” Device.

(3) Oak-Leaf Cluster (bronze or silver).

(4) 5/16 Inch Stars (gold or silver).

k. Illustration and Description.

(1) LOM for U.S. Service Members. See Appendix 3A.

(2) Four Degrees of LOMs for Foreign Military Personnel. See Appendix 3B.

3.5. DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS (DFC).

a. Introduction. The DFC is awarded for heroism or extraordinary achievement while participating in an aerial flight.

b. Award Category. PMD.

c. Award Criteria and Eligibility Requirements.

(1) In accordance with Sections 3749, 6245, and 8749 of Title 10, U.S.C., as governed by E.O. 4601, the DFC may be awarded to any Service members or to any member of the armed forces of a friendly foreign nation who, after April 6, 1917, while serving in any capacity with the Army, Navy or Marine Corps, or Air Force, distinguishes him or herself by heroism or extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight.

(a) The performance of the act of heroism must be evidenced by voluntary action above and beyond the call of duty.

(b) The extraordinary achievement must have resulted in an accomplishment so exceptional and outstanding as to clearly set the individual apart from comrades or from other persons in similar circumstances.

(c) Awards will be made only to recognize single acts of heroism or extraordinary achievement and will not be made in recognition of sustained operational activities against an armed enemy or other sustained meritorious service.

(d) The DFC may be awarded with the "V" device to signify the award was made for combat heroism (valor):

1. While engaged in military operations against an enemy of the United States;

2. While engaged in military operations involving conflict against an opposing foreign force; or

3. While serving with friendly foreign forces engaged in military operations with an opposing armed force in which the United States is not a belligerent party.

(e) The DFC may be awarded with the "C" device to recognize extraordinary achievement under combat conditions on or after January 7, 2016. The award narrative must clearly show that the nominee was personally exposed to hostile action or under significant risk of hostile action:

1. While engaged in action against an enemy of the United States;

2. While engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force; or

3. 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.

(2) In accordance with Sections 3749, 6249, and 8749 of Title 10, U.S.C., no DFC, or device in place thereof, may be awarded or presented to a person or their representative if the person's service after he or she distinguished him or herself was not honorable.

(3) In accordance with E.O. 4601:

(a) No DFC may be awarded after July 2, 1926, unless the award recommendation was made within 2 years of the act or achievement justifying award and the DFC was awarded within 3 years of that act or achievement.

(b) A lost DFC award recommendation will be considered on its own merit, regardless of the time limitation on award, provided a Service member provides:

1. An affidavit or certificate stating the award recommendation was made within 2 years of the act or achievement justifying award and that the recommendation was forwarded through official channels.

2. A copy of the award recommendation or a statement of the substance of the award recommendation.

d. Foreign Military Personnel. The DFC may be awarded to foreign military personnel.

e. Procedures. Each Secretary of the Military Department will prescribe appropriate regulations for administrative processing, awarding, and wearing of the DFC, ribbon, and appurtenances, which comply with pertinent laws, E.O.s, federal regulations, and the policies and procedures outlined in DoDI 1348.33 and this volume. Procedures for processing DFC recommendations for eligible members of the armed forces of friendly foreign nations will be in accordance with DoDI 1348.33.

f. Approval Authority. The Secretary of the Military Department concerned is the approval authority for award of the DFC to Service members or to members of the armed forces of a friendly foreign nations serving in any capacity with his or her respective Military Department. For specific Military Department guidance, refer to:

(1) Army. Refer to AR 600-8-22.

(2) Navy and Marine Corps. Refer to the SECNAVINST 1650.1 series.

(3) Air Force. Refer to AFI 36-2803.

g. Posthumous Award. The DFC may be awarded posthumously.

h. Order of Precedence. The DFC is worn after the LOM and:

(1) Army. Before the Soldier's Medal.

(2) Navy and Marine Corps. Before the Navy and Marine Corps Medal.

(3) Air Force. Before the Airman's Medal.

i. Subsequent Awards.

(1) In accordance with Sections 3749, 6247, and 8749 of Title 10, U.S.C., individuals are only presented a DFC upon initial award.

(2) Subsequent awards are denoted by wearing the appropriate device on the suspension and service ribbon of the medal.

j. Authorized Devices. Refer to the applicable Military Department regulation for specific guidance on wear of authorized devices. Authorized devices are:

(1) "V" Device.

(2) "C" Device

(3) Oak-Leaf Cluster (bronze or silver).

(4) 5/16 Inch Star (gold or silver).

k. Illustration and Description. See Appendix 3A.

3.6. BRONZE STAR MEDAL (BSM).

a. Introduction. The BSM may be awarded to any person who, while serving in any capacity with the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Air Force distinguished themselves by heroic (valorous), or meritorious achievement or service not involving participation in aerial flight.

b. Award Category. PMD.

c. Award Criteria and Eligibility Requirements.

(1) In accordance with E.O. 11046, subject to the provisions of Section 1133 of Title 10, U.S.C., the Secretary of a Military Department may award the BSM to any person who, while serving in any capacity in or with the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Air Force of the United States, after December 6, 1941, distinguishes or has distinguished himself or herself by valor, or meritorious achievement or service, not involving participation in aerial flight:

(a) While engaged in an action against an enemy of the United States;

(b) While engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force; or

(c) 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.

(2) The required valor, while of a lesser degree than that required for award of the Silver Star Medal, must nevertheless have been performed with marked distinction. When the BSM is awarded for valor, the "V" device will be authorized.

(3) The BSM may also be awarded for meritorious service under combat conditions that is of a lesser degree than that required for award of the DSSM or LOM. However, for meritorious service that ended on or after January 7, 2016, the BSM may only be awarded if during the period, the awardee was exposed to hostile action, or was at significant risk of exposure to hostile action. Otherwise the appropriate award would be either the Defense Meritorious Service Medal or the Meritorious Service Medal.

(4) After October 30, 2000, in accordance with Section 1133 of Title 10, U.S.C., the BSM may only be awarded to a member of a military force who:

(a) At the time of the events for which the decoration is to be awarded, was serving in a geographic area in which hostile fire pay or imminent danger pay was authorized in accordance with Section 310 of Title 37, U.S.C., or hazardous duty pay in accordance with paragraph (1) or (3) of Section 351(a) of Title 37, U.S.C.; or

(b) Receives hostile fire pay or imminent danger pay in accordance with Section 310 of Title 37, U.S.C., or, hazardous duty pay in accordance with Paragraph (1) or (3) of Section 351(a) of Title 37, U.S.C., as a result of the action or events justifying award.

d. Foreign Military Personnel. The BSM may be awarded to members of the armed forces of friendly foreign nations.

e. Procedures.

(1) Each Secretary of the Military Department will prescribe appropriate regulations for administrative processing, awarding, and wearing of the BSM, ribbon, and appurtenances, which comply with pertinent laws, E.O.s, federal regulations, and the policies and procedures outlined in DoDI 1348.33 and this volume. Such Military Department regulations will, so far as practicable, be uniform and subject to the approval of the Secretary of Defense pursuant to E.O. 11046.

(2) Procedures for processing BSM recommendations for eligible foreign personnel will be in accordance with DoDI 1348.33.

f. Approval Authority. In accordance with E.O. 11046, the Secretary of the Military Department concerned is the BSM approval authority. For specific Military Department guidance, refer to:

(1) Army. Refer to AR 600-8-22.

(2) Navy and Marine Corps. Refer to the SECNAVINST 1650.1 series.

(3) Air Force. Refer to AFI 36-2803.

g. Posthumous Award. The BSM may be awarded posthumously.

h. Order of Precedence. The BSM is worn:

(1) Army. After the Soldier's Medal and before the Purple Heart.

(2) Navy and Marine Corps. After the Navy and Marine Corps Medal and before the Purple Heart.

(3) Air Force. After the Airman's Medal and before the Purple Heart.

i. Subsequent Awards.

(1) Individuals are only presented a BSM upon initial award.

(2) Subsequent awards are denoted by wearing the appropriate device on the suspension and service ribbon of the medal.

j. Authorized Devices. Refer to the applicable Military Department regulation for specific guidance on wear of authorized devices. Authorized devices are:

(1) "V" Device.

(2) Oak-Leaf Cluster (bronze or silver).

(3) 5/16 Inch Star (gold or silver).

k. Illustration and Description. See Appendix 3A.

3.7. PURPLE HEART (PH).

a. Introduction. The PH is awarded to any Service member who is killed or wounded, to an extent requiring treatment by a medical officer, under one of the circumstances outlined in Paragraph 3.7.c. The PH differs from other PMDs in that an individual is entitled to the decoration upon the awarding authority determining that the specified award criteria have been met.

b. Award Category. PMD.

c. Award Criteria and Eligibility Requirements.

(1) In accordance with E.O. 11016, subject to the provisions of Sections 1129, 1129a, and 1131 of Title 10, U.S.C., and Public Law 104-106, the Secretary of a Military Department, will, in the name of the President of the United States, award the PH, with suitable ribbons and appurtenances, to any Service member under the jurisdiction of that Department who, after April 5, 1917, has been wounded, killed, or who has died or may hereafter die of wounds received under any of the following circumstances:

(a) In any action against an enemy of the United States.

(b) In any action with an opposing armed force of a foreign country in which the Military Services are or have been engaged.

(c) 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.

(d) As a result of an act of any such enemy or opposing armed forces.

(e) As the result of an act of any hostile foreign force.

(f) After March 28, 1973, as a result of an international terrorist attack against the United States or a foreign nation friendly to the United States, recognized as such an attack for purposes of award of the PH by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned, or jointly by the Secretaries of the Military Departments concerned if members from more than one Military Department are killed or wounded in the attack. The Secretary of the Military Department concerned will notify the ASD(M&RA) before awarding the PH for an international terrorist attack that occurs in the United States or its territories.

(g) After March 28, 1973, as a result of military operations while serving outside the territory of the United States as part of a peacekeeping force.

(h) On or after December 7, 1941, pursuant to Section 1129 of Title 10, U.S.C., as the result of friendly fire provided the Service member was killed or wounded in action as the result of action by friendly weapon fire while directly engaged in armed conflict, other than as a result of an act of an enemy of the United States, unless (in the case of a wound) the wound is the result of willful misconduct of the member.

(i) Before April 25, 1962, pursuant to Section 521 of Public Law 104-106, while held as a prisoner of war (POW), or while being taken captive, in the same manner as a former POW who is wounded on or after that date while held as a POW. A person will be considered to be a former POW if the person is eligible for the POW Medal under Section 1128 of Title 10, U.S.C.

(j) On or after December 7, 1941, to a Service member who is killed or dies while in captivity as a POW under circumstances establishing eligibility for the POW Medal pursuant to Section 1128 of Title 10, U.S.C., and Volume 2 of DoD Manual 1348.33, unless compelling evidence is presented that shows that the member's death was not the result of enemy action.

(k) After September 11, 2001, pursuant to Section 1129a of Title 10, U.S.C., to a Service member on active duty who is killed or wounded in an attack by a foreign terrorist organization in circumstances where the death or wound is the result of an attack targeted on the member due to such member's status as a member of the armed forces.

1. An attack by an individual or entity will be considered to be a foreign terrorist attack if the individual or entity was in communication with the foreign terrorist organization before the attack, and the attack was inspired or motivated by the foreign terrorist organization.

2. Award is not authorized if the death or wound was the result of the willful misconduct of the Service member.

3. To assist in making a PH determination pursuant to Section 1129a of Title 10, U.S.C., the Secretary of the Military Department concerned may request an intelligence assessment from the Defense Intelligence Agency's Defense Combating Terrorism Center. The Defense Combating Terrorism Center assessment of potential foreign terrorist attacks by an individual or entity will assess whether the individual or entity was in communication with the foreign terrorist organization before the attack, and if the attack was inspired or motivated by the foreign terrorist organization. The assessment will include supporting citations and rationale.

(2) A wound for which the award is made must have been of such severity that it required treatment, not merely examination, by a medical officer.

(a) Treatment of the wound will be documented in the Service member's medical or health record.

(b) Award may be made for wounds treated by a medical professional other than a medical officer provided a medical officer includes a statement in the Service member's medical record that the extent of the wounds were such that the wounds would have required treatment by a medical officer if one had been available to treat the wounds.

(3) After May 17, 1998, pursuant to Section 1131 of Title 10, U.S.C., the PH may only be awarded to a person who is a Service member at the time the person is killed or wounded under circumstances otherwise qualifying that person for award of the PH. Before this date, the Secretary of the Military Department concerned was authorized to award the PH to U.S. civilian nationals who were serving under competent authority in any capacity with an armed force of that department.

d. Foreign Military Personnel. The PH may not be awarded to foreign personnel.

e. Procedures.

(1) Each Military Department will prescribe appropriate regulations for administrative processing, awarding, and wearing of the PH medal, ribbon, and appurtenances, which comply with pertinent laws, EOs, federal regulations, and the policies and procedures outlined in DoDI 1348.33 and this volume. Such Military Department regulations will, so far as practicable, be uniform and subject to the approval of the Secretary of Defense pursuant to E.O. 11016.

(2) The statutory time limits pertaining to award of military decorations do not apply to the PH. The PH may be awarded any time after submission of documented proof that award criteria have been met.

f. Approval Authority. Pursuant to E.O. 11016, the Secretary of the Military Department concerned is the PH approval authority. For specific Military Department guidance, refer to:

(1) Army. Refer to AR 600-8-22.

(2) Navy and Marine Corps. Refer to the SECNAVINST 1650.1 series.

(3) Air Force. Refer to AFI 36-2803.

g. Posthumous Award. The PH may be awarded posthumously.

h. Order of Precedence. The PH is worn after the BSM and before the Defense Meritorious Service Medal. Pursuant to Section 1127 of Title 10, U.S.C., the PH will be accorded a position of precedence not lower than immediately following the BSM.

i. Subsequent Awards.

(1) In accordance with E.O. 11016, the PH medal will be provided to the next of kin of any person entitled to the posthumous award, without respect to whether a previous award has been made.

(2) Living recipients are only presented a PH medal upon initial award. Subsequent awards are denoted by wearing the appropriate device on the suspension and service ribbon of the medal.

j. Authorized Devices. Refer to the applicable Military Department regulation for specific guidance on wear of authorized devices. Authorized devices are:

(1) Oak-Leaf Cluster (bronze or silver).

(2) 5/16 Inch Star (gold or silver).

k. Illustration and Description. See Appendix 3A.

3.8. MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (MSM).

a. Introduction. The MSM may be awarded to Service members, or to members of the armed forces of friendly foreign nations, who have distinguished themselves by outstanding meritorious achievement or service.

b. Award Category. PMD.

c. Award Criteria and Eligibility Requirements.

(1) The MSM, with accompanying ribbons and appurtenances, authorized by E.O. 11448, may be awarded by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned, to any Service member, or to any member of the armed forces of a friendly foreign nation, who has distinguished himself or herself by outstanding meritorious achievement or service.

(2) The MSM may be awarded for outstanding achievement or service while serving in a combat zone, combat zone tax exclusion areas, and areas authorized for hostile fire pay, imminent danger pay, or hazardous duty pay; however, the BSM is the appropriate equivalent level award to recognize meritorious achievement or service performed under combat conditions. Accordingly, the "C" device is not authorized for award on the MSM.

(3) The MSM for specific achievement may be awarded with the "R" device to distinguish that the award was earned for the direct hands-on employment of a weapon system or other warfighting activities that had a direct and immediate impact on a combat operation or other military operation (i.e., outcome of an engagement or specific effects on a target), including Title 10, U.S.C., support of non-Title 10 operations, and operations authorized by an approved execute order. To be designated as such, the action must have been performed through any domain, in circumstances that did not expose the individual to hostile action, or place him or her at significant risk of exposure to hostile action on or after January 7, 2016, under one of the following conditions:

(a) While engaged in military operations against an enemy of the United States;

(b) While engaged in military operations involving conflict against an opposing foreign force; or

(c) While serving with friendly foreign forces engaged in military operations with an opposing armed force in which the United States is not a belligerent party.

d. Foreign Military Personnel. The MSM may be awarded to foreign military personnel.

e. Procedures.

(1) Each Secretary of the Military Department will prescribe appropriate regulations for administrative processing, awarding, and wearing of the MSM, ribbon, and appurtenances, which comply with pertinent laws, E.O.s, federal regulations, and the policies and procedures outlined in DoDI 1348.33 and this volume. Such Military Department regulations will, so far as practicable, be uniform and subject to the approval of the Secretary of Defense pursuant to E.O. 11448.

(2) Procedures for processing MSM recommendations for eligible foreign personnel will be in accordance with DoDI 1348.33.

f. Approval Authority. Pursuant to E.O. 11448 the Secretary of the Military Department concerned is the MSM approval authority. For specific Military Department guidance, refer to:

(1) Army. Refer to AR 600-8-22.

(2) Navy and Marine Corps. Refer to the SECNAVINST 1650.1 series.

(3) Air Force. Refer to AFI 36-2803.

g. Posthumous Award. Pursuant to E.O. 11448, the MSM may be awarded posthumously.

h. Order of Precedence. The MSM is worn after the Defense Meritorious Service Medal and before the Air Medal.

i. Subsequent Awards.

(1) Individuals are only presented an MSM upon initial award.

(2) Subsequent awards are denoted by wearing the appropriate device on the suspension and service ribbon of the medal.

j. Authorized Devices. Refer to the applicable Military Department regulation for specific guidance on wear of authorized devices. Authorized devices are:

(1) "R" Device.

(2) Oak-Leaf Cluster (bronze or silver).

(3) 5/16 Inch Star (gold or silver).

k. Illustration and Description. See Appendix 3A.

3.9. AIR MEDAL.

a. Introduction. The Air Medal is awarded to recognize individuals who distinguish themselves by valorous, heroic or meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight.

b. Award Category. PMD.

c. Award Criteria and Eligibility Requirements.

(1) The Air Medal, as authorized by E.O. 9158 as amended by E.O. 9242-A, may be awarded by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned to any person who, while serving in any capacity with the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Air Force, subsequent to September 8, 1939, distinguishes himself or herself by meritorious achievement while participating in an aerial flight.

(2) The Air Medal may be awarded for sustained meritorious achievement (distinction) in the performance of duties involving aerial flight.

(3) The Air Medal may be awarded for combat or non-combat action in recognition of single acts of valor, heroism, or merit while participating in an aerial flight.

(4) The Air Medal will be awarded with the "V" device to signify award was for valor:

(a) While engaged in action against an enemy of the United States;

(b) While engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force; or

(c) 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.

(5) The Air Medal may be awarded for meritorious service or achievement under combat conditions. For a merit period that ended on or after January 7, 2016, the Air Medal may be awarded with the "C" device if during the period of the award the awardee was exposed to hostile action, or was at significant risk of exposure to hostile action. However, the device need not be authorized if the Air Medal was approved on a strike, flight, or point basis.

d. Foreign Military Personnel. The Air Medal may be awarded to foreign military personnel.

e. Procedures.

(1) Each Military Department will prescribe appropriate regulations for administrative processing, awarding, and wearing of the Air Medal, ribbon, and appurtenances for Service members in their respective department, which comply with pertinent laws, E.O.s, federal regulations, and the policies and procedures outlined in DoDI 1348.33 and this volume.

(2) Procedures for processing Air Medal recommendations for eligible foreign personnel will be in accordance with DoDI 1348.33.

f. Approval Authority. Pursuant to E.O. 9158 the Secretary of the Military Department concerned is the Air Medal approval authority. For specific Military Department guidance, refer to:

(1) Army. Refer to AR 600-8-22.

(2) Navy and Marine Corps. Refer to the SECNAVINST 1650.1 series.

(3) Air Force. Refer to AFI 36-2803.

g. Posthumous Award. The Air Medal may be awarded posthumously.

h. Order of Precedence. The Air Medal is worn after the MSM and before the Joint Service Commendation Medal.

i. Subsequent Awards.

(1) Individuals are only presented an Air Medal upon initial award.

(2) Subsequent awards are denoted by wearing the appropriate device on the suspension and service ribbon of the medal.

j. Authorized Devices. Refer to the applicable Military Department regulation for specific guidance on wear of authorized devices. Authorized devices are:

(1) "V" Device.

(2) "C" Device.

(3) Oak-Leaf Cluster (bronze or silver).

(4) 5/16 Inch Star (gold or silver).

(5) Arabic Numerals (bronze or gold).

k. Illustration and Description. See Appendix 3A.

3.10. PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION (PUC).

a. Introduction. The PUC, established by E.O. 10694, is the Nation's highest unit decoration. It is awarded by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned, in the name of the President, to military and naval units for outstanding performance in action.

b. Award Category. Unit Combat Award.

c. Award Criteria and Eligibility Requirements.

(1) E.O. 10694 authorizes the Secretary of the Military Department concerned to issue a citation in the name of the President of the United States, as public evidence of deserved honor and distinction, to any organization, detachment, installation, ship, aircraft, or other unit for outstanding performance in action on or after October 16, 1941, in the case of the Navy or Marine Corps, and on or after December 7, 1941, in the case of the Army or the Air Force.

(2) The unit must have displayed such gallantry, determination, and esprit de corps in accomplishing its mission under extremely difficult and hazardous conditions to have set it apart and above other units participating in the same campaign.

(3) The degree of heroism required is the same as that which would be required to award the following to an individual:

(a) Army. Distinguished Service Cross.

(b) Navy and Marine Corps. Navy Cross.

(c) Air Force. Air Force Cross.

(4) Extended periods of combat duty or participation in a large number of operational missions, either ground or air is not sufficient to justify this award. This award will normally be earned by units that have participated in a single action or successive actions covering relatively brief time spans. It is not reasonable to presume that entire units can sustain the Service Cross (Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross or Air Force Cross) level of performance for extended time periods, except under the most unusual circumstances.

d. Foreign Military Personnel. The PUC may be issued to units of cobelligerent nations, serving with the U.S. Military Services for outstanding performance in action on or after December 7, 1941, provided that such units meet the standards established for the U.S. Military Services.

e. Procedures. Each Military Department will prescribe appropriate regulations for administratively processing, awarding, and wearing the PUC ribbon and appurtenances, which comply with pertinent laws, E.O.s, federal regulations, and the policies and procedures outlined in DoDI 1348.33 and this volume.

f. Approval Authority. Pursuant to E.O. 10694, the Secretary of the Military Department concerned is the PUC approval authority. For specific Military Department guidance, refer to:

(1) Army. Refer to AR 600-8-22.

(2) Navy. Refer to the SECNAVINST 1650.1 series.

(3) Air Force. Refer to AFI 36-2803.

g. Posthumous Award. The PUC may be awarded posthumously.

h. Order of Precedence. The PUC is worn:

(1) Army. On the right side of the uniform before all other unit citations.

(2) Navy and Marine Corps. After the Combat Action Ribbon and before the Joint Meritorious Unit Award.

(3) Air Force. After the Air Force Combat Action Medal and before the Joint Meritorious Unit Award.

i. Subsequent Awards. Subsequent awards are denoted by wearing the appropriate device on the PUC service ribbon.

j. Authorized Devices. Refer to the applicable Military Department regulation for specific guidance on wear of authorized devices. Authorized devices are:

(1) Oak-Leaf Cluster (bronze or silver).

(2) 3/16 Inch Star (bronze or silver).

k. Illustration and Description. See Appendix 3A.

APPENDIX 3A: ILLUSTRATION AND DESCRIPTION OF DOD-WIDE DECORATIONS

Table 1: Illustration and Description of DoD-Wide Decorations

	Distinguished Service Cross, Department of the Army: A cross of bronze, 2 inches in height and 1 13/16 inches in width with an eagle on the center and a scroll below the eagle bearing the inscription "FOR VALOR." On the reverse side, the center of the cross is circled by a wreath with a space for engraving the name of the recipient.
	Navy Cross, Department of the Navy: The Navy Cross is a modified cross patée 1 1/2 inches wide (the ends of its arms are rounded whereas a conventional cross patée has arms that are straight on the end). There are four laurel leaves with berries in each of the re-entrant arms of the cross. In the center of the cross, a sailing vessel is depicted on waves, sailing to the viewer's left. The laurel leaves with berries refer to achievement.
	Air Force Cross, Department of the Air Force: The Air Force Cross consists of a bronze cross with an oxidized satin finish. Centered on the obverse of the cross is a gold-plated American bald eagle, wings displayed against a cloud formation (as used on the seal of the Air Force). This design is encircled by a laurel wreath in green enamel, edged in gold. The reverse of the cross is blank and suitable for engraving.
	Distinguished-Service Medal, Department of the Army: The Coat of Arms of the United States in gold surrounded by a circle of dark blue enamel, 1 1/2 inches in diameter, bearing the inscription "FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MCMXVIII". On the reverse is a scroll for the name of the recipient (which is to be engraved) upon a trophy of flags and weapons. The medal is suspended by a bar attached to the ribbon.

Table 1: Illustration and Description of DoD-Wide Decorations, Continued

	Distinguished-Service Medal, Department of the Navy: An American bald eagle with displayed wings in the center of a 1-1/4 inch gilt bronze medallion. The eagle holds an olive branch in its right talon and arrows in its left talon. The eagle is surrounded by a blue enameled ring inscribed "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA" at top and "NAVY" at the bottom. Surrounding the blue enamel ring is a gold border of scroll waves moving in a clockwise direction. The medal is surmounted by a white five-pointed star, point up, tipped with gold balls. In the center of the star is a gold anchor with gold rays radiating between the arms of the star.
	Distinguished-Service Medal, Department of the Air Force: The obverse design has a sunburst of 13 gold rays separated by 13 white enameled stars, with a semi-precious blue stone in the center. The sunburst is suspended from the ribbon by a wide slotted bar which consists of stylized wings, symbolic of the Air Force. The blue stone in the center represents the firmament; the 13 stars represent the original colonies and man's chain of achievements. The sunburst represents the glory that accompanies great achievements, and the rays depict man's quest for light and knowledge.
	Silver Star: A gold star, 1 1/2 inches in circumscribing diameter with a laurel wreath encircling rays from the center and a 3/16 inch diameter silver star superimposed in the center. The pendant is suspended from a rectangular shaped metal loop with rounded corners. The reverse has the inscription "FOR GALLANTRY IN ACTION."
	Legion of Merit: The design is the same as the degree of Legionnaire, except it is awarded to U.S. Service members. The only difference is the award certificate states Legion of Merit.
	Distinguished Flying Cross: A bronze cross patée on which is superimposed a four-bladed propeller, 1 11/16 inches in width. Five rays extended from the reentrant angles, forming a one-inch square. The medal is suspended from a rectangular shaped bar.

Table 1: Illustration and Description of DoD-Wide Decorations, Continued

	Bronze Star Medal: A bronze star 1 1/2 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.
	Purple Heart: A purple heart within a gold border, 1 3/8 inches wide; containing a profile of General George Washington. Above the heart appears a shield of the Washington coat of arms (a white shield with two red bars and three red stars in chief) between sprays of green leaves. The reverse consists of a raised bronze heart with the words "FOR MILITARY MERIT" below the coat of arms and leaves.
	Meritorious Service Medal: A bronze medal, 1 1/2 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 is an eagle with wings upraised standing upon two upward curving branches of laurel tied with a ribbon between its feet. The reverse has the encircled inscriptions "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA" and "MERITORIOUS SERVICE."
	Air Medal: A bronze compass rose 1 11/16 inches circumscribing diameter and charged with an eagle carrying two lightning flashes in its talons. A fleur-de-lis at the top point holds the suspension ring. The points of the compass rose on the reverse are modeled with the central portion plain for engraving the name of the recipient. The colors in the ribbon are the original colors of the Army Air Corps.
	PUC, Department of the Army: The Presidential Unit Citation emblem worn to represent award of the Presidential Unit Citation is 1 7/16 inches wide and 9/16 inch in height. The emblem consists of a 1/16 inch wide gold frame with laurel leaves that encloses an ultramarine blue ribbon.
	PUC, Department of the Navy: The Navy version has blue, yellow, and red horizontal stripes. To distinguish between the two versions of the PUC, the Navy version is typically referred to as the Navy and Marine Corps PUC while the Army and Air Force refer to the decoration simply as the PUC.

Table 1: Illustration and Description of DoD-Wide Decorations, Continued

	PUC, Department of the Air Force: The Air Force PUC is the same as the Army PUC but slightly smaller, so that it can be worn in alignment with other Air Force ribbons.

APPENDIX 3B: ILLUSTRATION AND DESCRIPTION OF LOM FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF FRIENDLY FOREIGN NATIONS

Table 2: Illustration and Description of LOM for Members of Foreign Armed Forces

	LOM, Degree of Chief Commander: Awarded to eligible foreign personnel. On a wreath of green laurel joined at the bottom by a gold bow-knot (rosette), a domed five-pointed white star bordered crimson, points reversed with v-shaped extremities tipped with a gold ball. In the center, a blue disk encircled by gold clouds, with 13 white stars arranged in the pattern that appears on the U.S. coat of arms. Between each star point, within the wreath are crossed arrows pointing outwards. The overall width is 2 15/16 inches. The words "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA" are engraved in the center of the reverse. A miniature of the decoration in gold on a horizontal gold bar is worn on the service ribbon.
	LOM, Degree of Commander: Awarded to eligible foreign personnel. On a wreath of green laurel joined at the bottom by a gold bow-knot (rosette), a five-pointed white star bordered crimson, points reversed with v-shaped extremities tipped with a gold ball. In the center, a blue disk encircled by gold clouds, with 13 white stars arranged in the pattern that appears on the U.S. coat of arms. Between each star point, within the wreath are crossed arrows pointing outwards. The overall width is 2 1/4 inches. A gold laurel wreath in the v-shaped angle at the top connects an oval suspension ring to the neck ribbon that is 1 15/16 inches in width. The reverse of the five-pointed star is enameled in white, and the border is crimson. In the center, a disk for engraving the name of the recipient surrounded by the words "ANNUIT COEPTIS MDCCLXXXII." An outer scroll contains the words "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA." The service ribbon is the same as the ribbon for the degree of Commander, except the ribbon attachment is silver. The LOM, Degree of Commander, is one of only two U.S. Military awards worn around the neck; the other being the Medal of Honor.
	LOM, Degree of Officer: Awarded to eligible foreign personnel. The design for the degree of Officer is the same as the degree of Commander except overall width is 1 7/8 inches and the pendant has a suspension ring instead of the wreath for attaching the ribbon. A gold replica of the medal, 3/4 inch wide, is centered on the suspension ribbon.

Table 2: Illustration and Description of LOM for Members of Foreign Armed Forces, Continued

	LOM, Degree of Legionnaire: Awarded to eligible foreign personnel. The design is the same as the degree of Officer, except the suspension ribbon does not have the medal replica. The decoration is the same as the LOM awarded to U.S. Service members, except the award certificate states Legion of Merit, Degree of Legionnaire.

GLOSSARY

G.1. ACRONYMS.

AFI	Air Force Instruction
AR	Army Regulation
ASD(M&RA)	Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower and Reserve Affairs
BSM	Bronze Star Medal
DFC	Distinguished Flying Cross
DoDI	DoD instruction
DSM	Distinguished Service Medal
DSSM	Defense Superior Service Medal
E.O.	Executive order
LOM	Legion of Merit
MSM	Meritorious Service Medal
PH	Purple Heart
PMD	personal military decoration
POW	Prisoner of War
PUC	Presidential Unit Citation
SECNAVINST	Secretary of the Navy Instruction
SSM	Silver Star Medal
U.S.C.	United States Code

G.2. DEFINITIONS. Unless otherwise noted, these terms and their definitions are for the purpose of this issuance.

Armed Forces of the United States. The Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard.

combat heroism. See valor.

death or wounding by friendly fire. Service member(s) killed in action or wounded in action mistakenly or accidentally by friendly forces who are directly engaged with the enemy and directing fire at a hostile force or what is thought to be a hostile force.

direct impacts. "Hands-on" employment of a weapons system or other activities that had direct, immediate, and on-site effects on the outcome of an engagement or other operation intended to have an effect upon the target.

DoD Joint Decorations and Awards. The subset of DoD decorations and awards, which includes the DoD Joint PMDs and the JMUA, that are awarded by the Secretary of Defense to recognize joint accomplishments.

domain. Described as air, land, maritime, space, and cyberspace domains in accordance with Joint Publication 1-02.

engage. Defined in Joint Publication 1-02.

engagement. Defined in Joint Publication 1-02.

foreign terrorist organization. An entity designated as such by the Secretary of State pursuant to Section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, Section 1189 of Title 8, U.S.C.

gallantry. Nobility of behavior or spirit. Heroic courage.

hostile act. Defined in Joint Publication 1-02.

killed in action. "In action" characterizes the casualty as having been the direct result of enemy or hostile action, sustained in combat or relating thereto, or sustained going to or returning from a combat mission provided that the occurrence was directly related to enemy or hostile action.

medical officer. A physician with officer rank. An officer of the Medical Corps of the Army, an officer of the Medical Corps of the Navy, or an officer in the Air Force designated as a medical officer in accordance with Section 101 of Title 10, U.S.C.

medical professional. A civilian physician or a physician extender. Physician extenders include nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and other medical professionals qualified to provide independent treatment (e.g., independent duty corpsman and special forces medic). Basic corpsmen and medics are not physician extenders.

meritorious service. Individual performance that exceeds that expected by virtue of grade and experience, based on accomplishments during an entire tour of duty.

meritorious service under combat conditions. Meritorious service or achievement while personally exposed to hostile action or while at significant risk of exposure to hostile action.

Military Services. Synonymous with Armed Forces of the United States.

non-combat meritorious service or achievement. Individual performance that exceeds that expected by virtue of grade and experience that occurs while the individual is not under significant risk of engaging in, participating in, or experiencing hostile action.

outstanding achievement award/decoration. An award recognizing a single specific act or accomplishment, separate and distinct from regularly assigned duties, such as a special project that covers a short period of time with definite beginning and ending dates.

participation in aerial flight. Refers to being physically present in the military aircraft or spacecraft during aerial flight.

performance award. An award presented to individuals in recognition of their performance, outstanding achievement, or meritorious service.

PMD. A military decoration that is bestowed on an individual for valor, heroism, outstanding achievement, or meritorious service. Synonymous with individual performance award.

personal valor decoration. A military decoration that is exclusively bestowed on an individual for valor.

physician. A person possessing a degree in medicine or osteopathy.

POW. A detained person as defined in Articles 4 and 5 of the Geneva Convention, Relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War of August 12, 1949.

secretary concerned. Defined in Section 101 of Title 10, U.S.C.

Service member. A member of the Armed Forces of the United States.

specific achievement. Synonymous with outstanding achievement award.

valor. An act or acts of heroism by an individual above what is normally expected while engaged in direct combat with an enemy of the United States, or an opposing foreign or armed force, with exposure to enemy hostilities and personal risk.

weapons system. Defined in Joint Publication 1-02.

wound. An injury to any part of the body from an outside force or agent.

wounded in action. Battle casualties, other than the individuals killed in action, who incurred a wound in action against the enemy or as a result of enemy action that required the treatment of a physician. The term encompasses all kinds of wounds and other injuries caused by an outside force or agent, whether there is a piercing of the body, as in a penetrating or perforating wound, or none, as in a contused wound; all fractures, burns, blast concussions, traumatic brain injury, all effects of gases and like chemical and biological warfare agents; and the effect of exposure to radioactive substances. Civilian battle casualties are not classified as wounded in action.

REFERENCES

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Executive Order 4601, "Distinguished Flying Cross," March 1, 1927

Executive Order 9158, "Air Medal," May 11, 1942, as amended

Executive Order 9260, "Legion of Merit," October 29, 1942

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Executive Order 11016, "Authorizing award of the Purple Heart," April 25, 1962, as amended

Executive Order 11046, "Authorizing award of the Bronze Star Medal," August 24, 1962, as amended

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Public Law 104-106, "National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1996," Section 521, "Award of Purple Heart to persons wounded while held as prisoners of war before April 25, 1962," February 10, 1996

United States Code, Title 10

United States Code, Title 37