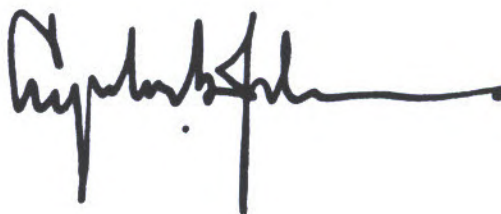


CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION
TO THE
3D AEROSPACE RESCUE AND RECOVERY GROUP

The 3d Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group, Military Airlift Command, distinguished itself by extraordinary gallantry in connection with military operations against an opposing armed force in Southeast Asia, from 1 August 1965 to 30 June 1966. During this period, the personnel of the 3d Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group repeatedly jeopardized their own lives by exposing themselves to hostile ground and air fire while flying unarmed aircraft in order to rescue survivors downed by hostile fire. Their heroic actions resulted in the rescue and recovery of 339 friendly troops, of which 304 were saved from almost certain capture by hostile forces. The extraordinary heroism displayed by the members of the 3d Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group has had a profound impact on the morale of combat aircrews in Southeast Asia. By their gallantry and untiring devotion to duty, the personnel of the 3d Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group have reflected great credit upon themselves and the United States of America.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Augustine", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MARCH 10, 1967

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

The President will award the Presidential Unit Citation to the 3rd Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group, Military Airlift Command, during White House ceremonies today.

The award is the second such citation presented to members of the United States Air Force who are operating rescue aircraft in Southeast Asia. The previous Presidential Unit Citation, given to the 38th Air Rescue Squadron, was awarded on January 19, 1966. It covered a period from August 1, 1964 to July 31, 1965. The Squadron is now part of the Group.

The citation being presented to the 3rd Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group Friday covers a period from August 1, 1965 to June 30, 1966. It was during this period that the organization, operating a variety of helicopters and other rescue aircraft, recovered 339 friendly troops, saving 304 of them from almost certain capture by hostile forces.

Rescues performed by the group range from open water pick-ups by amphibians in the Gulf of Tonkin, while under fire from Communist shore batteries, to rescues by helicopter deep within North Vietnam. The unit also performed many rescues of injured military personnel within South Vietnam.

From December 1964 through February 1967, Squadrons of the present Group are credited with having saved 597 U. S. and allied personnel in Southeast Asia.

Several members of the 3rd Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group, during the period of the citation, will attend the White House ceremony. They are: Colonel Arthur Beall, Group Commander, Rockville, Maryland; Lt. Colonel James Blackburn, Operations Officer, Dallas, Texas; Lt. Colonel Baylor Haynes, Rescue Squadron Commander, Dallas, Texas; Captain James Butera, Rescue Aircraft Commander, San Diego; Captain John Guilmartin, Rescue Aircraft Commander, San Antonio, Texas; Captain William Cowell, Rescue Aircraft Commander, Honolulu, Hawaii; Master Sergeant Charles Walther, Pararescue Technician, Parkersburg, West Virginia; and Airman Second Class Malcolm Hassler, Pararescue Technician from Peoria, Illinois.

The Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service, with headquarters at Orlando Air Force Base, Florida, is commanded by Colonel Allison C. Brooks. It is a sub-command of the Air Force's Military Airlift Command.

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For: Airman Malcolm Hassler
With best wishes,

Byrd & Jones

Robert LaPointe

From: <Pjchuck@aol.com>
To: <rlapointe@gci.net>
Sent: Wednesday, February 07, 2001 5:03
Subject: Re: Received your pictures

Hi Bob,

The guy to my right in the photo is LtCol Baylor Haynes, Det 5, 38 ARS/CC at Udorn AB, Thailand. He was one of the first Jolly (H-3) commanders, and my first commander in the field. Butera, I believe, is the last officer in line and is standing next to John P. McConnell, the Air Force Chief of staff in 67. Thanks for getting this photo in the book. Looking forward to the publication. Did you get my check for two books? We're sending one to my father-in-law.

It will be 70 degrees here today so I'd better get out there and get some stuff done in the garage. Becky says hello. Take care, Chuck