

February 25, 1994

MEMORANDUM FOR: JOHN PODESTA .
FROM: *Ron Geisler*
RON GEISLER
SUBJECT: Medal of Freedom to Military Officers

Because of the extensive number of medals available to military personnel, it is rare for the President to award the Presidential Medal of Freedom to military personnel. The following is a list of active duty and retired military officers who have received the medal:

TRUMAN

None

EISENHOWER

None

KENNEDY

None

JOHNSON

Samuel Eliot Morison - historian, military officer, rear admiral, U.S. Navy (retired), former historian of naval operations, winner of Pulitzer Prize.

NIXON

John Paul Vann - military officer, Lt. Colonel, U.S. Army (retired), hero, soldier of peace and patriot of two nations, spanning a decade of military and civilian service in Viet Nam.

FORD

General Omar N. Bradley (With Distinction) - military hero, World War II, General of the Army (retired), first Chairman of the Joint Chief of Staff, former Administrator of Veterans Affairs.

Admiral Arleigh Burke (With Distinction) - military officer, Admiral, U.S. Navy (retired), combat commander, first three-term Chief of Naval Operations.

CARTER

Admiral H.G. Rickover, U.S. Navy - military officer, developed and applied nuclear propulsion in naval warfare, designed the Nation's first civilian electric utility reactor. (on active duty)

REAGAN

General Andrew J. Goodpaster - military officer, diplomat, General U.S. Army (retired), former Supreme Allied Commander, Europe (NATO).

Lyman L. Lemnitzer - military officer, General, U.S. Army (retired), tactician in World War II, fought in Korea, U.S. Commander-in-Chief, Europe, former Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff.

General M. B. Ridgway - military hero, World War II, helped save D-Day, Supreme Commander, Korean Conflict, former Chief of Staff, U.S. Army.

Albert C. Wedemeyer - military hero, World War II strategist, General, U.S. Army (retired).

Charles E. Yeager - Air Force hero, test pilot, first person to break the sound barrier, Brigadier General, U.S. Air Force (retired).

BUSH

James H. Doolittle - military hero in World War II, General, U.S. Air Force (retired), aviation pioneer, pilot.

General Colin L. Powell, U.S. Army - military officer, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff during Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm, Persian Gulf, former Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs. (on active duty)

General H. Norman Schwarzkopf, U.S. Army - military officer, Commander-in-Chief, Central Command during Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm, Persian Gulf. (on active duty)

BUSH (Cont'd)

Lt. General Brent Scowcroft, U.S. Air Force (retired) - military officer, public servant, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs during Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm, Persian Gulf, former Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs.

General John W. Vessey, U.S. Army (retired) - military officer, soldier/statesman, Special Presidential Emissary to Hanoi for POW/MIA Affairs, former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

CLINTON

General Colin L. Powell, U.S. Army (retired) (With Distinction) - military officer, out-going Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, under two Presidents, former Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs.

Total Number Awarded to Military Officers: 16 (3 were on active duty and
13 were retired when they
received the medal)

Total Number of Medals Issued: 335