



AWARDS AND CITATIONS



Soldier's Medal

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Awarded for actions during the Peace Time Awards

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, July 2, 1926, takes pleasure in presenting the Soldier's Medal to Sergeant [REDACTED], United States Army, for heroism at the risk of life not involving conflict with an armed enemy. On 15 May 1989, in the performance of duty as a Military Policeman, Sergeant [REDACTED] risked his own life to rescue a woman who had been severely injured in a shooting incident. As the assailant prepared to shoot again, Sergeant [REDACTED] fired at him, diverting attention from the injured victim to himself. Then, withdrawing from cover, and without regard for his personal well-being, Sergeant [REDACTED] voluntarily moved into the line of fire and pulled her to safety. These heroic actions were above and beyond the normal call of duty for a Military Policeman. Sergeant [REDACTED] courageous conduct has earned him the respect of his peers and superiors alike, and reflects great credit upon him; the [REDACTED] Military Community and the United States Army.

Action Date: May 15, 1989

Service: Army

Rank: Sergeant

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Soldier's Medal

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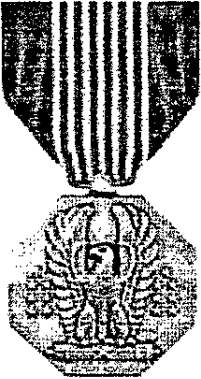

The **Soldier's Medal** is an individual decoration of the United States Army. It was introduced as Section 11 of the Air Corps Act, passed by the Congress of the United States on July 2, 1926.^[1] The criteria for the medal are: "The Soldier's Medal is awarded to any person of the Armed Forces of the United States or of a friendly foreign nation who, while serving in any capacity with the Army of the United States... distinguished himself or herself by heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy."^[2]

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The distinguishing criteria for the award of the Soldier's Medal as per Army Regulation 600-8-22, para 3-13 states that "The performance must have involved personal hazard or danger and the voluntary risk of life under conditions not involving conflict with an armed enemy. Awards will not be made solely on the basis of having saved a life."^[2] It is the highest honor a soldier can receive for an act of valor in a non-combat situation, held to be equal to or greater than the level which would have justified an award of the Distinguished Flying Cross had the act occurred in combat. Any American servicemember who is eligible for retirement pay will receive an increase of 10 percent in retirement pay, if the level of valor was equal to that which would earn the Distinguished Service Cross. Additional awards of the medal are denoted by oak leaf clusters worn on the suspension and service ribbon of the medal.

The first Soldier's Medals were awarded on October 17, 1927 to John F. Burns and James P. Martin for their heroism during a fire and to James K. Wilson and Cleophas C. Burnett for saving people from drowning.

Soldier's Medal	
	
Awarded by United States Army	
Type	Medal (Decoration)
Awarded for	Distinguishing oneself by heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy.
Status	Currently awarded
Statistics	
First awarded	October 17, 1927
Precedence	
Next (higher)	Distinguished Flying Cross Navy & Marine Corps - Navy and Marine Corps Medal
Equivalent	Air Force - Airman's Medal Coast Guard - Coast Guard Medal
Next (lower)	Bronze Star Medal
	
Service ribbon	

Notable recipients of the Soldier's Medal include Colin Powell, who during his second tour of duty in the Vietnam War (1968–69), was injured in a helicopter crash and despite his wounds, rescued two comrades from the burning wreckage.

In [REDACTED] was awarded The Soldier's Medal for distinguishing himself heroically during a gun battle with an armed felony suspect and while doing so, saved the life of a critically injured victim with multiple gunshot wounds.

In 1998, three soldiers, Hugh Thompson, Jr., Lawrence Colburn and Glenn Andreotta were awarded the Soldier's Medal for their intervention in the My Lai Massacre (1968) which included threatening to fire on their own comrades if they didn't stop the killings.

In 2001, the U.S. Army awarded an unprecedented number of Soldier's Medals (28) to personnel who risked their own lives to assist their fellow comrades in the wake of the September 11 attack on the Pentagon.

At least one hundred Soldier's Medals have been issued since the onset of Operation Enduring Freedom.

The Soldier's Medal is considered to be equivalent to the Navy and Marine Corps Medal, Airman's Medal, and the Coast Guard Medal.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Retrieved 19 Dec 2010, Appendix 5,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

