



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS AIR FORCE MANPOWER AND PERSONNEL CENTER
RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE TX 78150-6001

Mrs George H. Buford, Jr.
516 North 14th Street
Kansas City, Kansas 66102

10 DEC 1985

Dear Mrs Buford

On 24 October 1985 Colonel John M. Verdi, USMCR, Retired, recommended Lieutenant Wallace A. Buford be recognized for his actions on 6 May 1954. The Secretary of the Air Force Personnel Council has awarded the Air Medal and the Purple Heart in recognition of Lieutenant Buford's courageous and unselfish devotion to duty.

We've forwarded the certificate, citation, and special orders which accompany the Air Medal and Purple Heart to personnel from the Personal Affairs Unit, 442nd Combat Support Group, Richards-Gebaur Air Force Base, Missouri 64030. As you requested, they will contact you to make arrangements regarding an appropriate presentation ceremony.

We hope the ceremony goes well. Best wishes for the future.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Dale G. Johnson", is written over the word "Sincerely".

DALE G. JOHNSON, Lt Col, USAF
Chief, Recognition Programs Branch
Special Programs Division

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
Washington 20330-5020

SPECIAL ORDER
GB-141

4 December 1985

1. By direction of the President, FIRST LIEUTENANT WALLACE A. BUFORD, 0-930967, is awarded the PURPLE HEART (Posthumously) for wounds incurred as the direct result of a hostile foreign force on 6 May 1954. PAS: NA: RDP: NA.

2. By direction of the President, FIRST LIEUTENANT WALLACE A. BUFORD, 0-930967, is awarded the AIR MEDAL, third oak leaf cluster, (Posthumously) for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight on 6 May 1954. PAS: NA: RDP: NA.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE



NORMAND G. LEZY, Colonel, USAF
Director of Administration

DISTRIBUTION
GO

GB-141

CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF

THE AIR MEDAL
(THIRD OAK LEAF CLUSTER)
(POSTHUMOUS)

TO

WALLACE A. BUFORD

First Lieutenant Wallace A. Buford distinguished himself by meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight as C-119 Pilot near Dien-Bien-Phu, North Vietnam, on 6 May 1954. On that date, when his C-119 aircraft was disabled by enemy anti-aircraft artillery, he elected to remain aboard and assist the aircraft commander in an attempt to save the aircraft and crew. With complete disregard for his personal safety, Lieutenant Buford selflessly subordinated himself to a decision which he knew to be more hazardous and less certain of achievement. The professional skill and airmanship displayed by Lieutenant Buford in the dedication of his service to his country reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.





THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TO ALL WHO SHALL SEE THESE PRESENTS, GREETING:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT
THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AUTHORIZED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER, MAY 11, 1942
HAS AWARDED

THE AIR MEDAL

(THIRD OAK LEAF CLUSTER)

TO

FIRST LIEUTENANT WALLACE A. BUFORD

FOR

MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT
WHILE PARTICIPATING IN AERIAL FLIGHT

6 MAY 1954

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND IN THE CITY OF WASHINGTON
THIS 4TH DAY OF DECEMBER 19 85

Charles A. Gabriel

CHIEF OF STAFF



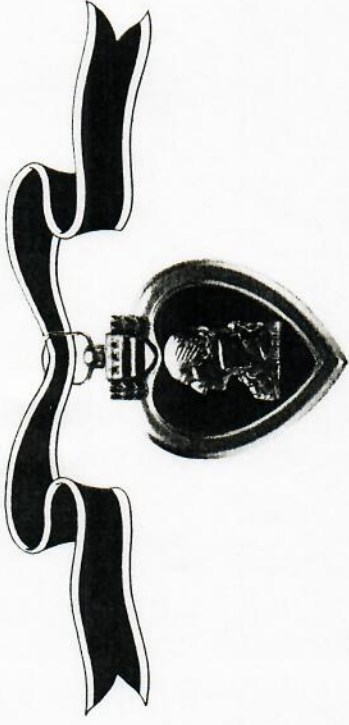
THE PURPLE HEART

During the American Revolutionary War, General George Washington, at Newburg-on-the-Hudson, on August 7, 1782, issued an order establishing the Honorary Badge of Distinction, otherwise known as the Badge of Military Merit or Decoration of the Purple Heart. The award of that decoration ceased with the closing of the Revolutionary War and was revived on February 22, 1932, out of respect to the memory and military achievements of General George Washington.

This decoration, which is the oldest United States military decoration in current use, is rich with the tradition for which Americans fight and so gallantly give their lives. General Washington, whose profile adorns the medal, symbolizes our efforts in behalf of freedom-loving people throughout the world.

It is awarded to personnel who received wounds in action against an armed enemy of the United States during periods of war or armed conflict or lost their lives as a result of action by hostile foreign forces.

During peacetime, the award is made to personnel wounded or killed while part of a peacekeeping force or by terrorist action.



THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TO ALL WHO SHALL SEE THESE PRESENTS, GREETING:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT
THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AUTHORIZED BY ORDER OF
GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON, AUGUST 7, 1782
HAS AWARDED

THE PURPLE HEART

TO

FIRST LIEUTENANT WALLACE A. BUFORD

FOR
WOUNDS RECEIVED IN ACTION

6 MAY 1954

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND IN THE CITY OF WASHINGTON
THIS 4TH DAY OF DECEMBER 1985

Charles A. Gabriel
CHIEF OF STAFF

