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Headquarters  
Department of the Army  
Washington, DC  
1 May 1985

\*Army Regulation 672-7 (C) (u)

Effective 1 June 1985

## Decorations and Awards

### Armed Forces Decorations for Foreign Military Personnel (U)

**Summary.** (U) This regulation on the award of Armed Forces decorations to foreign military personnel has been revised. It explains the criteria for awarding Armed Forces decorations and gives instructions on preparing and submitting award recommendations. This revision provides guidance on awarding the Army Achievement Medal.

**Applicability.** (U) This regulation applies to the Active Army. It does not apply to the Army National Guard (ARNG) or the U.S. Army Reserve (USAR).

**Impact on New Manning System.** (U) This regulation does not contain information that affects the New Manning System.

**Supplementation.** (U) Supplementation of this regulation is prohibited, except upon approval from HQDA(DAPC-ALA), ALEX VA 22332-0400.

**Interim changes.** (U) Interim changes to this regulation are not official unless they are authenticat-

ed by The Adjutant General. Users will destroy interim changes on their expiration dates unless sooner superseded or rescinded.

**Suggested improvements.** (U) The proponent agency of this regulation is the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel. Users are invited to send comments and suggested improvements on DA Form 2028 (Recommended Changes to Publications and Blank Forms) directly to HQDA(DAPC-ALA), ALEX VA 22332-0400.

**Distribution restriction.** (U) This regulation contains technical or operational information that is for official Government use only. Distribution is limited to U.S. Government agencies. Requests from outside the U.S. Government for release of this regulation under the Freedom of Information Act or the Foreign Military Sales Program must be made to HQDA(DAPC-ALA), ALEX VA 22332-0400.

## NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION

Unauthorized Disclosure Subject  
To Criminal Sanctions

Classified by: DAPC-ALA

Review on: 1 May 2004

\*This regulation supersedes AR 672-7(C), 1 May 1982.

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## 1. (U) Purpose

This regulation sets forth policy, criteria, and administrative procedures for award of the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal to foreign military personnel.

## 2. (U) References

a. (U) *Required publication.* AR 672-5-1, Military Awards. (Cited in paras 6b and 7a.)

b. (U) *Related publication.* AR 335-15, Management Information Control System. (Cited in para 7b.)

c. *Referenced forms.*

(1) (U) DA Form 638, Recommendation for Award.

(2) (U) DD Form 1396-1, DOD Biographical Report.

(3) (U) DD Form 1396-1S, DOD Biographical Report Supplement.

## 3. (U) Responsibilities

Recommending officials will ensure that award recommendations are submitted in the proper format and within the prescribed time limits.

## 4. (U) Eligibility

Foreign military personnel may be awarded the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal as described below. An exception to these policies is explained in paragraph 5.

a. (U) *Legion of Merit.* Foreign personnel may be awarded the Legion of Merit for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service to the United States. (See table 1.)

(1) (U) Foreign personnel will be awarded the Legion of Merit in one of the four degrees listed in table 1.

Table 1 (U) Degrees of the Legion of Merit

Degree .....	Rank or position.
Chief commander .....	Chief of State or Head of Government.
Commander .....	Equivalent to Army Chief of Staff or higher, but not Chief of State.
Officer .....	General officers in positions below Chief of Staff level; ranks equal to colonel for service in positions normally held by general officers in the U.S. Army and foreign military attaches.
Legionnaire .....	All other foreign personnel.

(2) (U) When recommending a degree higher than Legionnaire, include a statement to explain the basis for recommending that degree.

(3) (U) A second or succeeding award to the same person will be in the same degree or in a higher degree than the previous award. A medal will be presented for each award.

b. (U) Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal. Foreign personnel who distinguish themselves in a way that has been of mutual benefit to a friendly foreign nation and the United States may be awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, or Army Achievement Medal. The Army Commendation Medal and Army Achievement Medal will not be awarded to general officers.

5. (U) Recognizing members of international staffs

a. (U) The general policy of the Joint Chiefs of Staff is that foreign nationals serving on interna-

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tional staffs will not be recommended for U.S. decorations or awards.

b. (u) Senior U.S. officers serving on international staffs may recognize deserving foreign military nationals by sending letters of appreciation to the defense ministers of their parent countries encouraging appropriate recognition by those countries.

(u) The Chief of Staff, Army may approve exceptions when the award of a U.S. decoration would clearly be in the national interest. Requests for exception to policy must be fully justified. Send requests through command channels to HQDA(DAPC-ALA), ALEX VA 22332-0400.

#### 6. (u) Criteria for recommendations

a. (u) *Legion of Merit*. The Legion of Merit may be awarded for the reasons listed below. The recommendation for award will describe the things the person has done or other bases to meet these criteria. (In these descriptions, avoid abbreviations, foreign terms, and generalities.)

(1) (u) Outstanding cooperation with the Department of the Army.

(2) (u) Superior performance of duties.

(3) (u) Performance of meritorious service that has proved to be in the best interests of the United States.

(4) (u) Service that has improved friendly relations between the United States and the foreign country.

(5) (u) Demonstration of sincere friendship for the United States and high regard for its Armed Forces.

(6) (u) Marked sympathy for the ideals of democracy.

(7) (u) Tangible contributions to the defense efforts of the Western World.

(8) (u) Nature of present and future positions of assignment.

(9) (u) Value (military and political) that might accrue to the United States by award of the decoration.

b. (U) *Meritorious Service, Army Commendation, and Army Achievement Medals*. The criteria for these awards to foreign nationals are the same as discussed in AR 672-5-1 for award to members of the U.S. forces.

#### 7. (U) Preparing recommendations

a. (U) Complete DA Form, 638 (Recommendation for Award) as explained in AR 672-5-1.

b. (U) Complete DD Form 1396-1 (DOD Biographical Report) and DD Form 1396-1S (DOD Biographical Report Supplement) in duplicate. Attach them as enclosures to DA Form 638. If DD Forms 1396-1 and 1396-1S are not available, submit a typewritten biography on plain bond paper. Give the full name, date and place of birth, present résumé, and previous U.S. decorations. (See AR 335-15, para 7-2h, for exempt information requirement.)

c. (U) Obtain statement of concurrence from both the U.S. Ambassador and U.S. Defense Attaché in the proposed awardee's parent country. Attach these statements as enclosures to DA Form 638.

d. (U) Prior to forwarding a recommendation, ensure that information that could be embarrassing to the proposed awardee or his or her country is not included in the proposed citation.

#### 8. (U) Submitting recommendations

a. (U) The Department of Defense will not process award recommendations received more than 6 months after the ending date of the service to be recognized. Requests for exceptions to this policy will be considered only if unusual circumstances beyond simple administrative delay are involved.

b. (U) Submit the award recommendation through command channels. Recommendations must not arrive at HQDA(DAPC-ALA) earlier than 6 months before the ending date of the service to be recognized, nor may they arrive later than 1 month after that date. For recommendations submitted more than 1 month after the ending date of service, submit a letter or endorsement giving a complete justification for the late submission.

#### 9. (U) Delegation of awards approval authority

a. (U) The following major Army oversea commanders are delegated authority to approve award of the Army Achievement Medal to military personnel of friendly foreign nations serving within their geographical area of responsibility except those serving on international staffs:

(1) (U) Commander in Chief, U.S. Army, Europe, and Seventh Army.

(2) (U) Commanding General, Eighth U.S. Army (Korea).

(3) (U) Commanding General, U.S. Army, Japan/IX Corps (Japan).

(4) (U) Commanding General, U.S. Army Western Command (Pacific area less Japan and Korea).

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5. 25 U.S. Army South  
(Central and South America)  
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b. (U) This authority is contingent upon the following:

(1) (U) The documents listed in paragraphs 7a and b are properly processed.

(2) (U) The documents listed in paragraphs 7c are obtained from the appropriate U.S. Embassy.

(3) (U) File checks conducted by the command counterintelligence and criminal investigation activities are favorable.

10. (U) Presenting decorations

a. (U) After approval, obtain permission to present the decoration from the U.S. Ambassador of Defense Attaché in the foreign country of the awardee.

b. (U) Do not publicize the award or schedule any ceremonies until the award is approved.

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By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

JOHN A. WICKHAM, JR.  
*General, United States Army*  
*Chief of Staff*

Official:

DONALD J. DELANDRO  
*Brigadier General, United States Army*  
*The Adjutant General*

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