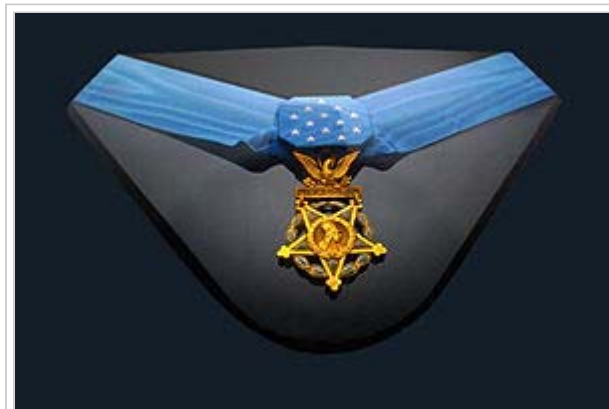# List of Medal of Honor recipients

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The Medal of Honor was created during the American Civil War and is the highest military decoration presented by the United States government to a member of its armed forces. The recipient must have distinguished themselves at the risk of their own life above and beyond the call of duty in action against an enemy of the United States. Due to the nature of this medal, it is commonly presented posthumously.[1]

A Medal of Honor on display

The President of the United States, in the name of the United States Congress, has awarded 3,471 Medals of Honor to the nation's soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and coast guardsmen since the decoration's creation in 1861.[2] The citations highlighting these acts resided in archives, some for more than 100 years and were only sporadically printed. In 1973, the U.S. Senate ordered the citations compiled and printed as Committee on Veterans' Affairs, U.S. Senate, Medal of Honor recipients: 1863–1973 (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1973). This book was later updated and reprinted in 1979.[3]

The first Army Medal of Honor was awarded to Private Jacob Parrott during the American Civil War for his role in the Great Locomotive Chase. The first African American recipient for this war was William Harvey Carney who, despite being shot in the face, shoulders, arms, and legs, refused to let the American flag touch the ground. The only female Medal of Honor recipient is Mary Edwards Walker, a Civil War surgeon. Her medal was rescinded in 1917 along with many other non-combat awards, but it was restored by President Jimmy Carter in 1977.[4]

While current law, (10 U.S.C. § 6241 (http://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/10/6241.html)), beginning in 1918, explicitly state that recipients must be serving in the U.S. Armed Forces at the time of performing a valorous act that warrants the award, exceptions have been made. For example, Charles Lindbergh, while a reserve member of the U.S. Army Air Corps, received his Medal of Honor as a civilian pilot. In addition, the Medal of Honor was presented to the British Unknown Warrior by General Pershing on October 17, 1921; later the U.S. Unknown Soldier was reciprocally awarded the Victoria Cross, Britain's highest award for gallantry, on November 11, 1921. Although being a U.S. citizen is not a prerequisite for eligibility to receive the medal, apart from a few exceptions, Medals of Honor can be awarded to only members of the U.S. armed forces. Sixty-one Canadians who were serving in the United States armed forces have received the Medal of Honor; most received it for actions in the American Civil War. Since 1900, only four have been awarded to Canadians.[5] In the Vietnam War, Peter C. Lemon was the only Canadian recipient of the Medal of Honor.[6]

Contents

American Civil War

Main articles: Lists of American Civil War Medal of Honor recipients: A–F, G–L, M–P, Q–S and T–Z

The American Civil War (1861–1865) was an undeclared war between the United States (the Union) and the Southern states of the newly formed Confederate States of America under Jefferson Davis. The Medal of Honor was established during this conflict; 1522 were awarded (32 posthumously) for acts of bravery and gallantry in combat.[2] Almost half of all of the Medals of Honor that have been awarded were presented for actions in the Civil War.[2]

Indian Wars

Main article: List of Medal of Honor recipients for the Indian Wars

The term Indian Wars is the name generally used in the United States to describe a series of conflicts between the colonial or federal government and the American Indian population that resided in North America before the arrival of white settlers.[7] During this conflict the Medal of Honor was presented to 426 soldiers, 13 posthumously for acts of bravery and gallantry in combat.[2]

Korean Expedition

The United States expedition to Korea in 1871, also known as *Sinmiyangyo* (*Western Disturbance of the Year Sinmi year*), was the first American military action in Korea. It took place predominantly on and around the Korean island of Ganghwa. The reason for the presence of the American military expeditionary force in Korea was to support an American diplomatic delegation sent to establish trade and diplomatic relations with Korea and to ascertain the fate of the *General Sherman* merchant ship. The isolationist nature of the Joseon Dynasty government and the assertiveness of the Americans led to an armed conflict between the two parties. Eventually, the United States failed to secure its objectives.[8]

Image	Name	Service	Rank	Place of action	Date of action	
—	John Andrews	Navy	Ordinary Seaman	aboard the USS *Benicia*	June 9, 1871 – June 10, 1871	US
(Brown at right)	Charles Brown	Marine Corps	Corporal	aboard the USS *Colorado*	June 11, 1871	US
—	John Coleman	Marine Corps	Private	aboard the USS *Colorado*	June 11, 1871	US
—	James Dougherty	Marine Corps	Private	aboard the USS *Carondelet*	June 11, 1871	US

Image	Name	Service	Rank	Place of action	Date of action	
—	Frederick Franklin	Navy	Quartermaster	aboard the USS *Colorado*	June 11, 1871	US
—	Patrick H. Grace	Navy	Chief Quartermaster	aboard the USS *Benicia*	June 10, 1871 – June 11, 1871	US
(Hayden at left)	Cyrus Hayden	Navy	Carpenter	aboard the USS *Colorado*	June 11, 1871	US
	William F. Lukes	Navy	Landsman	Ganghwa Island	June 9, 1871 – June 10, 1871	US

Image	Name	Service	Rank	Place of action	Date of action	
—	Alexander McKenzie	Navy	Boatswain's Mate	aboard the USS *Colorado*	June 11, 1871	US
—	Michael McNamara	Marine Corps	Private	aboard the USS *Benicia*	June 11, 1871	US
—	James F. Merton	Navy	Landsman	Ganghwa Island	June 9, 1871 – June 10, 1871	US
—	Michael Owens	Marine Corps	Private	aboard the USS *Colorado*	June 11, 1871	US

Image	Name	Service	Rank	Place of action	Date of action	
(Purvis in center)	Hugh Purvis	Marine Corps	Private	aboard the USS *Alaska*	June 11, 1871	US
—	Samuel F. Rogers	Navy	Quartermaster	aboard the USS *Colorado*	June 11, 1871	US
—	William Troy	Navy	Ordinary Seaman	aboard the USS *Colorado*	June 11, 1871	US

Spanish-American War

Main article: List of Medal of Honor recipients for the Spanish–American War

The Spanish-American War (Spanish: *Guerra Hispano-Estadounidense, desastre del 98, Guerra Hispano-Cubana-Norteamericana* or *Guerra de Cuba*) was a military conflict between Spain and the United States that began in April 1898. Hostilities halted in August of that year, and the Treaty of Paris was signed in December. The war began after the American demand for Spain's peacefully resolving the Cuban fight for independence was rejected, though strong expansionist sentiment in the United States may have motivated the government to target Spain's remaining overseas territories: Cuba, Puerto Rico, the Philippines, Guam and the Caroline Islands.[10]

Riots in Havana by pro-Spanish "Voluntarios" gave the United States a reason to send in the warship USS *Maine* to indicate high national interest. Tension among the American people was raised because of the explosion of the USS *Maine,* and "yellow journalism" that accused Spain of extensive atrocities, agitating American public opinion. The war ended after decisive naval victories for the United States in

the Philippines and Cuba. The Treaty of Paris ended the conflict 109 days after the outbreak of war giving the United States ownership of the former Spanish colonies of Puerto Rico, the Philippines and Guam.[11]

Samoan Civil War

The Samoan Civil War is a Western definition of political activity in the Samoa Islands of the South Pacific in the late 19th century. By this non-Samoan definition, the Samoan Civil Wars were a series of wars between Germany, the United Kingdom, and the United States, ending in the partitioning of the island chain in 1899. The concluding event was the Second Samoan Civil War. The first Samoan Civil War lasted for eight years. The warring Samoan parties were supplied arms, training and sometimes even combat troops by Germany, Britain and the United States. The three powers were playing them off against each other as each country wanted Samoa as a refueling station for coal fired shipping. They also wanted Samoa due to the scarcity of unclaimed territory from 1870 onwards to gain more power in Europe.[12]

Image	Name	Service	Rank	Place of action	Date of action	Unit
—	Frederick T. Fisher	Navy	Gunner's Mate First Class	aboard the USS *Philadelphia*, Samoa	April 1, 1899	USS *Phila*
—	Bruno A. Forsterer	Marine Corps	Sergeant	Samoa	April 1, 1899	Unknown
	Henry L. Hulbert	Marine Corps	Private	Samoa	April 1, 1899	Unknown
—	Michael J. McNally	Marine Corps	Sergeant	Samoa	April 1, 1899	Unknown

Philippine-American War

Main article: List of Philippine–American War Medal of Honor recipients

The Philippine-American War[n 1] was an armed military conflict between the United States and the First Philippine Republic, fought between 1899 to at least 1902, which arose from a Filipino political struggle against U.S. occupation of the Philippines. While the conflict was officially declared over on July 4, 1902,[14][15][16] American troops continued hostilities against remnants of the Philippine Army and other resistance groups until 1913, and some historians consider these unofficial extensions part of the war.[16]

Eighty-six men were awarded the Medal of Honor for their actions in the Philippine–American War: 70 from the Army, 10 from the Navy, and 6 from the Marine Corps. Four of the awards were posthumous. Among the recipients were Webb Hayes, the son of former U.S. President Rutherford B. Hayes, and two prominent Marine Corps officers, Hiram I. Bearss and David Dixon Porter. Bearss became known for

leading long-range reconnaissance patrols behind enemy lines and was later wounded as a colonel in World War I. Porter was from a distinguished military family and rose to become a major general. José B. Nísperos, a member of the Philippine Scouts who was honored for continuing to fight after being wounded, was the first Asian recipient of the Medal of Honor.[17]

Boxer Rebellion

Main article: List of Medal of Honor recipients for the Boxer Rebellion

The Boxer Movement or Boxer Rebellion, which occurred in China from November 1899 to September 7, 1901, was an uprising by members of the Chinese Society of Right and Harmonious Fists against foreign influence in areas such as trade, politics, religion and technology that occurred in China during the final years of the Manchu rule (Qing Dynasty). The members of the Society of Right and Harmonious Fists were simply called *boxers* by the Westerners due to the martial arts and calisthenics they practiced. The uprising began as an anti-foreign, anti-imperialist peasant-based movement in northern China. They attacked foreigners who were building railroads and violating Feng shui, as well as Christians, who were held responsible for the foreign domination of China. In June 1900, the Boxers invaded Beijing and killed 230 non-Chinese. Tens of thousands of Chinese Christians, Catholic and Protestant alike, were killed mostly in Shandong and Shanxi Provinces as part of the uprising. The government of Empress Dowager Cixi was not helpful, and diplomats, foreign civilians, soldiers and some Chinese Christians retreated to the legation quarter where they held out for fifty-five days until a multinational coalition rushed 20,000 troops to their rescue. The Chinese government was forced to indemnify the victims and make many additional concessions. Subsequent reforms implemented after the crisis of 1900 laid the foundation for the end of the Qing Dynasty and the establishment of the modern Chinese Republic.[18]

During the Boxer rebellion, 59 American servicemen received the Medal of Honor for their actions. Four of these were for Army personnel, twenty-two went to navy sailors and the remaining thirty-three went to marines. Harry Fisher was the first Marine to receive the medal posthumously and the only posthumous recipient for this conflict.[2]

United States occupation of Veracruz, 1914

Main article: List of Medal of Honor recipients (Veracruz)

The United States occupation of the Mexican port of Veracruz lasted for six months in response to the Tampico Affair of April 9, 1914. The incident came in the midst of poor diplomatic relations between Mexico and the United States, related to the ongoing Mexican Revolution.[19]

Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels ordered that 56 Medals of Honor be awarded to participants in the occupation of Veracruz, the most for any single action before or since. In total 63 Medals of Honor were received for actions during the occupation; 1 Army, 9 to members of the United States Marine Corps and 53 to Navy personnel.[2]

Invasion and occupation of Haiti

The first United States occupation of Haiti began on July 28, 1915 and ended in mid-August 1934.

Image	Name	Service	Rank	Place of action	Date of action	Uni
	Smedley Butler	Marine Corps	Major	Fort Riviere, Haiti	November 17, 1915	in a comp compose fifth, thir and twen companie the Marir sailor det from the CONNE(
	William R. Button	Marine Corps	Corporal	near Grande Riviere, Haiti	October 31, 1919 – November 1, 1919	USS *Ant* -10) 7th l
	Daniel Daly	Marine Corps	Gunnery Sergeant	near Fort -Liberté, Haiti	October 24, 1915	15th Cor
	Herman H. Hanneken	Marine Corps	Sergeant	near Grande Riviere, Haiti	October 31, 1919 – November 1, 1919	USS *Ant* -10) 7th l

Image	Name	Service	Rank	Place of action	Date of action	Uni
	Ross L. Iams	Marine Corps	Sergeant	Fort Riviere, Haiti	November 17, 1915	5th Com
—	Samuel Marguiles	Marine Corps	Private	Fort Riviere, Haiti	November 17, 1915	23rd Cor

Image	Name	Service	Rank	Place of action	Date of action	Uni
	Edward A. Ostermann	Marine Corps	First Lieutenant	near Fort-Liberté, Haiti	October 24, 1915	15th Con
	William P. Upshur	Marine Corps	Captain	near Fort-Liberté, Haiti	October 24, 1915	15th Con

Occupation of the Dominican Republic

The United States occupied the Dominican Republic from 1916 to 1924. In May 1917, Rear Admiral William Caperton forced Arias to leave Santo Domingo by threatening the city with naval bombardment. U.S. Marines invaded and took control of the country within two months; in November that same year, the U.S. imposed a military government. The Marines restored order throughout most of the republic (with the exception of the eastern region); the country's budget was balanced, its debt was diminished, and economic growth resumed; infrastructure projects produced new roads that linked all the country's regions for the first time in its history; a professional military organization, the Dominican Constabulary Guard, replaced the partisan forces that had waged a seemingly endless struggle for power. [22]

Image	Name	Service	Rank	Place of action	Date of action	Unit
	Joseph A. Glowin	Marine Corps	Corporal	Guayacanes, Dominican Republic	July 3, 1916	13th Company Artillery Battalion 1st Brigade
—	Ernest C. Williams	Marine Corps	First Lieutenant	San Francisco de Macorís, Dominican Republic	November 29, 1916	1st Brigade
	Roswell Winans	Marine Corps	First Sergeant	Guayacanes, Dominican Republic	July 3, 1916	1st Brigade

World War I

Main article: List of Medal of Honor recipients for World War I

World War I, also known as the First World War and the Great War, was a global military conflict which took place primarily in Europe from 1914–1918. Over 40 million casualties resulted, including approximately 20 million military and civilian deaths.[24] Over 60 million European soldiers were mobilized from 1914–1918.[25] The immediate cause of the war was the June 28, 1914 assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand, heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne, by Gavrilo Princip, a Bosnian Serb citizen of Austria-Hungary and member of the Black Hand. The retaliation by Austria-Hungary against Serbia activated a series of alliances that set off a chain reaction of war declarations. Within a month, much of Europe was in a state of open warfare.[26]

During this War, 119 men received the Medal for their actions, 33 of them posthumously.[2]

Occupation of Nicaragua

The United States occupied Nicaragua from 1909 to 1933 and intervened in the country several times before that. The American interventions in Nicaragua were designed to prevent the construction of a trans-isthmian canal by any nation but the USA. Nicaragua assumed a quasi-protectorate status under the 1916 Chamorro-Bryan Treaty. The occupation ended as Augusto César Sandino, a Nicaraguan revolutionary, led guerrilla armies against US troops. Furthermore, the onset of the Great Depression made it costly for the USA to maintain occupation.[27]

Image	Name	Service	Rank	Place of action	Date of action	Unit
	Christian F. Schilt	Marine Corps	First Lieutenant	Quilali, Nicaragua	January 6, 1928 – January 8, 1928	Observation Squadron -M
	Donald L. Truesdale	Marine Corps	Corporal	near Constancia, near Coco River, northern Nicaragua	April 24, 1932	a Guardia Nacional Patrol

World War II

Main article: List of Medal of Honor recipients for World War II

See also: List of Medal of Honor recipients for the Battle of Iwo Jima

World War II, or the Second World War, was a global military conflict, the joining of what had initially been two separate conflicts. The first began in Asia in 1937 as the Second Sino-Japanese War; the other began in Europe in 1939 with the German and Russian invasion of Poland.[n 2] This global conflict split the majority of the world's nations into two opposing military alliances: the Allies and the Axis powers. It involved the mobilization of over 100 million military personnel, making it the most widespread war in history, and placed the participants in a state of "total war", erasing the distinction between civil and military resources. This resulted in the complete activation of a nation's economic, industrial, and scientific capabilities for the purposes of the war effort. Over 60 million people, the majority of them civilians, were killed, making it the deadliest conflict in human history.[29] The financial cost of the war is estimated at about a trillion 1944 U.S. dollars worldwide,[30][31] making it the most costly war in capital as well as lives.

During this conflict 464 United States military personnel received the Medal of Honor, 266 of them posthumously. A total of 42 Medals of Honor, representing 9% of all awarded during World War II, were presented for action in just two battles - 15 for actions during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor,

and 27 for actions during the Battle of Iwo Jima. A total of 21 (4.5% of all World War II Medals of Honor) were awarded to members of the all-Japanese American 100th Infantry Battalion of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, for actions in numerous battles across six different campaigns.[32] Additionally, the only Medal of Honor ever presented to a member of the United States Coast Guard was received for actions during this war.[2]

Korean War

Main article: List of Korean War Medal of Honor recipients

The Korean War was ignited by the 1950 invasion of South Korea when the North Korean Army moved south on June 25, 1950 to attempt to reunite the Korean peninsula, which had been formally divided since 1948. The conflict was then expanded by the United States and the Soviet Union's involvement. The main hostilities were during the period from June 25, 1950, until the Korean Armistice Agreement was signed on July 27, 1953.

In South Korea, the war is often called "6•25", or the 6•25 War (Korean: 6•25   ), from the date of the start of the conflict or, more formally, *Hanguk Jeonjaeng* literally "Korean War". In North Korea, while commonly known as the Korean War, it is formally called the Fatherland Liberation War. In the early days of the war, United States President Harry Truman called the United Nations response a "police action".[33] The war is sometimes called "The Forgotten War" because it is a major conflict of the 20th century that gets less attention than World War II, which preceded it, and the controversial Vietnam War, which succeeded it.[34] In China, the conflict was known as the War to Resist America and Aid Korea, but is today commonly called the "Korean War".[35]

During this war, 135 Medals of Honor were presented for bravery in action, 97 of them posthumously.[2]

Vietnam War

Main article: List of Medal of Honor recipients for the Vietnam War

The Vietnam War, also known as the Second Indochina War, and in Vietnam as the American War, occurred from 1959 to April 30, 1975. The term "Vietnam Conflict" is often used to refer to events which took place between 1959 and April 30, 1975. The war was fought between the Communist-supported Democratic Republic of Vietnam (North Vietnam) and the United States supported Republic of Vietnam (South Vietnam). During the Vietnam War, 246 Medals of Honor were received, 154 of them posthumously. Soldiers of the Army received the most with 160, followed by 57 to the Marines, 16 to the Navy and the remaining 13 to the Air Force.[2] The first medal of the war was presented to Roger Donlon for rescuing and administering first aid to several wounded soldiers and leading a group against an enemy force.[36] The first African American recipient of the war was Milton L. Olive, III who sacrificed himself to save others by smothering a grenade with his body.[37] Riley L. Pitts was killed after attacking an enemy force with rifle fire and grenades and was the first African American commissioned officer of the war to receive the medal.[38] Thomas Bennett was a conscientious objector who received the medal for his actions as a medic;[39] three chaplains received the medal, including Vincent R. Capodanno, who served with the Marine Corps and was known as the Grunt padre.[40]

USS *Liberty* incident

The USS *Liberty* incident was an attack on a neutral United States Navy technical research ship, USS *Liberty,* by Israeli jet fighter planes and motor torpedo boats on June 8, 1967, during the Six-Day War. The combined air and sea attack killed 34 and wounded more than 170 crew members, and damaged the ship severely.[41]

Image	Name	Service	Rank	Place of action	Date of action	Un
	William L. McGonagle	Navy	Commander	eastern Mediterranean Sea	June 8, 1967 – June 9, 1967	USS *Liberty* -5)

Battle of Mogadishu (1993)

The Battle of Mogadishu (also referred to as the "Battle of the Black Sea") or for Somalis *Ma-alinti Rangers* ("The Day of the Rangers") was a battle that was part of Operation Gothic Serpent that was fought on October 3 and 4, 1993, in Mogadishu, Somalia, by forces of the United States supported by UNOSOM II against Somali militia fighters loyal to warlord Mohamed Farrah Aidid. The battle is also referred to as the First Battle of Mogadishu to distinguish it from the Second Battle of Mogadishu in 2006.[43] The Medals were awarded to two DELTA operatives who volunteered to attempt to save the pilot of one of the downed UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters, despite facing hundreds, possibly thousands of rebels.

☐ This with the * indicates that the Medal of Honor was awarded posthumously

Image	Name	Service	Rank	Place of action	Date of action	Unit	Notes[
	Gary Gordon*	Army	Master Sergeant	Mogadishu, Somalia	October 3, 1993	1st SFOD-D	For voluntee to secure helicopt crash sit while un heavy enemy fi until reli could ar
	Randy Shughart*	Army	Sergeant First Class	Mogadishu, Somalia	October 3, 1993	1st SFOD-D	For voluntee to secure helicopt crash sit while un heavy enemy fi until reli could ar

War in Afghanistan

The War in Afghanistan, which began on October 7, 2001, was launched by the United States, the United Kingdom, and NATO allies in response to the September 11, 2001 attacks. It was the beginning of the War on Terrorism. The stated purpose of the invasion was to capture Osama bin Laden, destroy al -Qaeda, and remove the Taliban regime which had provided support and safe harbor to al-Qaeda.[45] Since 2001, six American service-members have received the Medal of Honor for actions in Afghanistan, three of them posthumously. Army Sergeant First Class Jared C. Monti received his medal for attempting to rescue a wounded soldier at the cost of his own life. Navy Lieutenant Michael P. Murphy received his for actions against insurgent forces and for sacrificing his life to call for help when his team had been overwhelmed by a much larger enemy force.[46] Army Staff Sergeant Robert James Miller's surviving family was presented with his medal on October 6, 2010.[47] The fourth recipient, Salvatore Giunta received his for his actions in 2007 when he risked his life to save a wounded comrade. He is the first living recipient since the Vietnam War. A second living recipient, Sergeant First Class Leroy Petry, received the medal from President Obama during a July 12, 2011, ceremony.[48] Marine Corps Corporal Dakota Meyer became the third living recipient awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions during the Battle of Ganjgal.[49][50]

This with the * indicates that the Medal of Honor was awarded posthumously

Image	Name	Service	Rank	Place of action	Date of action	Unit
	Salvatore Giunta	Army	Specialist	Korengal Valley, Afghanistan	October 25, 2007	2nd Battalio (Airborn 503rd Infantry Regime: 173rd Airborn Brigade Combat Team
	Dakota Meyer	Marine Corps	Corporal	Ganjgal, Afghanistan	September 8, 2009	Embedd Training Team 2-
	Robert James Miller*	Army	Staff Sergeant	Nari District, Kunar Province, Afghanistan	January 25, 2008	3rd Battalio 3rd Special Forces Group
	Jared C. Monti*	Army	Sergeant First Class	Gowardesh, Afghanistan	June 21, 2006	3rd Squadro 71st Cavalry 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mounta Division (Light Infantry

Image	Name	Service	Rank	Place of action	Date of action	Unit
	Michael P. Murphy*	Navy	Lieutenant	Near Asadabad, Afghanistan	June 28, 2005	SEAL Delivery Vehicle Team 1
	Leroy Petry	Army	Staff Sergeant	Paktia Province, Afghanistan	May 26, 2008	2nd Battalio 75th Ranger Regime

Iraq War

The Iraq War, also known as the Second Gulf War,[51] Operation Iraqi Freedom (*US*),[52] Operation TELIC (*UK*)[53] or the occupation of Iraq,[54] is an ongoing conflict which began on March 20, 2003 with the United States-led invasion of Iraq by a multinational coalition composed of U.S. and U.K. troops supported by smaller contingents from Australia, Poland, and other nations.[55] Four service members have received the Medal of Honor for actions in Iraq; two from the Army, one from the Marine Corps and one from the Navy. Paul R. Smith was the first to receive it for his actions on April 4, 2003 when he held enemy forces back, allowing other wounded soldiers to be evacuated to safety. The other three, Corporal Jason Dunham of the Marine Corps, Specialist Ross A. McGinnis of the Army and Master-at-Arms Second Class Michael A. Monsoor of the Navy received it after being killed while using their own bodies to smother grenades to protect their comrades.[56]

☐ This with the * indicates that the Medal of Honor was awarded posthumously

Image	Name	Service	Rank	Place of action	Date of action	Unit
	Jason Dunham*	Marine Corps	Corporal	Iraq, near Syrian border	April 14, 2004	3rd Battalion 7th Marine
	Ross A. McGinnis*	Army	Specialist	Adhamiyah, Iraq	December 4, 2006	C Company 1-26th Infantry 1st Infantry Division
	Michael A. Monsoor*	Navy	Master-at-Arms Second Class	Ramadi, Iraq	September 29, 2006	SEAL Team Three, Delta Platoon
	Paul R. Smith*	Army	Sergeant First Class	near Baghdad, Iraq	April 4, 2003	B Company 11th Engineer Battalion 3rd Infantry Division

Peacetime

Main article: List of Medal of Honor recipients during peacetime

Before World War II, the Medal of Honor could be received for actions not involving direct combat with the enemy and 193 men earned the medal in this way.[2] Most of these medals were presented to members of the United States Navy for rescuing or attempting to rescue someone from drowning.[2] In addition to the medals that were presented for lifesaving acts, one Medal of Honor was presented to William Halford who sailed in a small boat for 31 days to get help for the other members of the USS *Saginaw* who had been stranded on an island.[57] Three explorers were also presented with the medal by special acts of Congress. Charles Lindbergh received the medal for flying the first solo non-stop flight across the Atlantic Ocean as well as Floyd Bennett and Richard Evelyn Byrd who received it for their participation in what was thought to be the first successful heavier-than-air flight to the North Pole and back. One recipient, Adolphus W. Greely received his for a lifetime of military service.[58]

Foreign

While current law, (*e.g.*, 10 U.S.C. § 6241 (http://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/10/6241.html) (relating to service members in the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps)), beginning in 1918, explicitly state that recipients must be serving in the U.S. Armed Forces at the time of performing a valorous act that warrants the award, exceptions have been made. Apart from these rare exceptions, Medals of Honor can only be awarded to members of the U.S. Armed Forces, although being a U.S. citizen is not a prerequisite. Sixty-one Canadians who were serving in the United States Armed Forces have been awarded the Medal of Honor, with a majority awarded for actions in the American Civil War. Since 1900, only four have been awarded to Canadians.[5] In the Vietnam War, Peter C. Lemon was the only Canadian recipient of the Medal of Honor.[59]

The Medal of Honor has also been presented to several unknown soldiers: the British Unknown Warrior in the United Kingdom by General Pershing on October 17, 1921; later the U.S. Unknown Soldier was reciprocally awarded the Victoria Cross, Britain's highest award for gallantry, on November 11, 1921. The Medal of Honor was also presented to the Romanian Unknown Soldier, the Unknown Soldier of France, entombed under the Arc de Triomphe, the Unknown Soldier of Belgium and the Unknown Soldier of Italy, entombed in the Monument of Vittorio Emanuele II.[60]

Notes

1. ^ This conflict is also known as the Philippine Insurrection. This name was historically the most commonly used in the U.S., but Filipinos and some American historians refer to these hostilities as the *Philippine-American War*, and, in 1999, the U.S. Library of Congress reclassified its references to use this term.
2. ^ Official military histories in Commonwealth nations refer to the conflict as the Second World War, while the United States' official histories refer to the conflict as World War II. English translations of the official histories of other nations tend to resolve into English as Second World War also, for example *zweite weltkrieg* in German. See C.P. Stacey *Official History of the Canadian Army in the Second World War*, for example. "Official" usage of these terms is giving way to popular usage and the two terms are becoming interchangeable even in formal military history.

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This article incorporates public domain material from websites or documents of the United States Army Center of Military History.

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