

From: Steve Mac Isaac [colmacmac@mac.com] **Sent:** Mon, Jan 07, 2013 5:42 PM **To:** J D Millar **Cc:** Bob Dydo; capthawk@whidbey.net; Chief Bill Bill; Col J. Riedel; Dick 'Highlander'; Ed Epping, USAFA'70 Epping; Eve Sprouss; Frank B; Gen Bob Taylor; GEN Mike Short; John Paul Mac Isaac; AirCommando@comcast.net; DBONAFIELD@aol.com; Roger 'RAMJET' Riggs; ROGERS; smeleen@yahoo.com Steve Meleen; Stinger LEE; tallyho-13@juno.com; Wayne - #1 G.I. #1 G.I.; Wild Bill Bill; World's Greatest Fighter Pilot Fighter Pilot; David Wilson; gus sininger **Subj:** Re: USAF Combat Action Medal for AC-119ers?

Thanks HERO - Yes, I 'knew' this' after I 'checked' for One Of Our Brothers, whom had ASKED on an earlier e-mail;.....think I may(?) have gone 'further',.....to Find Out Why it was So Limited;.....seems So Many of Our Airmen,.....post 9/11,.....were being 'Exposed' to Ground Combat' that Yours/My Great Support Airmen/(now) women WERE NOT BEING RECOGNIZED FOR BEING IN ACTUAL COMBAT,.... (the 'Big Guys' never 'read' about ROCKET ALLEY at Da Nang or Bien Hoa,.....oh well, all 'they' do is try to re-write 'history' that NONE of the 'bastards' had 'guts' to Try Like You & Me,.....and ALL OUR BROTHERS!!!!),sorry IF I wasted Your Time,.....NOT PROPERLY TAKING CARE OF OUR GROUND SUPPORT/MX PERSONNEL,.....WHO WENT THRU THE SAME ROCKETS ATTACKS AS WE DID,.....has Always 'stuck-in-my Craw',.....some day/some time I will work to make this RIGHT!!!!!!.....Why did the AF take it 40+ Years Later to Get it RIGHT????? Love & Luck & Cheers - MAC

On Jan 5, 2013, at 8:35 PM, J D Millar wrote: Hey Steve, I managed to find some information via Google, to read that **this decoration is awarded only after Sept 11, 2001 with no retro award permitted.** FYI, there's the name of a POC: a Mr. John Balducci, Chief, AF Recognition Programs and a phone number for more information: 800.616.3775, (though I don't know if that's Balducci's number or someone else's).

So it seems that the AF doesn't intend for this medal to be awarded for Vietnam combat, or any other for that matter.

I bring this to your attention in the off-chance that you know people in high places within the AF Awards and Decorations mafia, someone who just might be able to push this noodle uphill. And I suppose I'd be wasting money on First Class postage to write to my member of Congress, to seek to have the USAF (& other services, too) to considerably push back that 9.11.01 date. Comment?

I'm curious to know what you might learn. And thanks, Pax, jd+

From: Wayne Laessig <gadvocate@sbcglobal.net> **To:** J D Millar <jdmillar@att.net>; Mac MacIsaac <colmacmac@mac.com> **Sent:** Fri, Dec 28, 2012 1:10:20 PM **Subj:** USAF Combat Action Medal for AC-119ers?

Mac, Catching up on e-mails. JD had a few questions about an award that maybe our 71st or 58th or 73rd Awards & Decs folks can answer or point JD in the right direction to get his answers? My guess is that the USAF Combat Action Medal is for our operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, etc and that we're not eligible but.... Thanks! Wayne

From: J D Millar [jdmillar@att.net] **Sent:** Wed, Dec 05, 2012 9:57 AM **To:** gadvocate@sbcglobal.net **Subj:** Wednesday Morning Hello Wayne ...I have an off-the-wall question for you. A good while ago I ordered a USAF Vietnam Veteran ball cap but now, at Christmas time, I'm bombarded w/catalogs galore. Nothing new there. I took a closer look at the most recent and saw that the company carried a medal of which I'd never heard: the "USAF Combat Action Medal." "Awarded to Airmen to have directly participated in active combat, either in the air or on the ground, as part of their official duties" according to the catalog's writeup. The medallion depicts the USAF eagle within a wreath and the cloth above is a reddish color with diagonal yellow stripes. "Airmen" is defined on the USAF's decorations website as officer and enlisted. Wikipedia tells that it's the only USAF medal I've seen with diagonal stripes and one must apply via AF Form 3994 (the normal form for submitting for an award). Between Wikipedia and the USAF Awards website, I take it that the catalog's writeup is accurate. **All that said, my questions are:**

A. How can a retired USAFer apply for this award so that it is given officially? And through whom?

B. Since the medal was only instituted in 2007, are we Vietnam guys even eligible?

C. I'd also wonder if the organization would be able to apply for the medal for everyone on our Alpha Roster somehow.

Can you help with this? Many thanks. Pax, jd+