

August 15, 2010

Secretary General Staff
United States Army John F. Kennedy Special
Warfare Center and School
ATTN: President of the Board
Fort Bragg, NC 28310-9610

Dear Mr. President:

I nominate SFC Eulis A. Presley for selection into the Distinguished member of the Special Forces Regiment (DMOR). SFC Presley served in the Army from July 1958 to June 1981 and in the Regiment from 1965 to 1981. He served in a wide variety of positions and made tremendous contributions with the 1st, 5th, and 6th Special Forces Groups, MACVSOG, the Special Warfare Center, and with 1st SFOD-D. He has continued to serve with distinction after his retirement.

SFC Presley's significant contributions while assigned to the Regiment include:

- SFC Presley entered Special Forces in 1965 and was assigned to the 6th Special Forces Group (Airborne) upon completing the Special Forces Qualification Course. In 1967 he was assigned to the 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne) where, as a Staff Sergeant, he was the Company Commander of Second Company, A-503 Nha Trang Mike Force. In 1968 he became the Company Commander of 6th Company, B-55 Nha Trang Mike Force and led his company on numerous missions supporting beleaguered A Detachments and other Special Forces units in heavy contact with the enemy in the I, II, and III Corps Tactical Zones.
- In 1968 he was reassigned to the 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne) on Okinawa and was sent in March 1969 on temporary duty to the MACV SOG Command and Control South in Vietnam as a member of a Snakebite Team. He was the One Zero of Recon Team Vise and led his team on a successful operation to capture a North Vietnamese prisoner of war in Cambodia west of the Fishhook area of Vietnam. He was then transferred to the MACV SOG Command and Control North (CCN) in May 1969 and was written about in John Plaster's book **SOG**. Presley was the One Zero of RT Kansas when marauding MiGs caused him to abort a North Vietnam Bright Light mission attempting to reach the Red River Valley. Every time they entered North Vietnam airspace they had to turn back because MiG-21s came up to intercept. In June 1969 One Zero Presley's RT Kansas was tasked to locate and interdict an NVA POL Pipeline in CCN's Target area Oscar Eight. He inserted his team west of Ashau Valley to hunt along Highway 922. The NVA were everywhere and trackers stayed tight on his team. Evasive movement kept the team ahead of the NVA for two days but finally contact was made and the team shot their way out and the team was extracted. This action is also reported in John Plaster's book **SOG**.
- Presley returned to the 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne) on Okinawa and in January 1970 he volunteered for another PCS tour of duty in RVN and was assigned to MACVSOG Command and Control Central (CCC), 5th SFGA. His first assignment at CCC was as Company B, Exploitation Force (Hatchet Force) 3rd Platoon Leader. In February 1970 he led his platoon on Company B's

Operation Half Back to establish a road block on Highway 110 in Laos. The successful operation allowed the USAF to destroy over 100 NVA trucks loaded with ammunition, POL and supply. At least 800 NVA were KIA according to USAF photos. SFC Presley's platoon was positioned to fire directly on to HWY 110. After four days the NVA 27th Infantry Regiment overwhelmed the Hatchet Force and SFC Presley's platoon and Co B were extracted. In April 1970 SFC Presley became the One Zero of RT Washington at CCC.

- SSG Presley left the Army in 1971 but returned a year later where he was assigned as an Army Recruiter in the Chicago, IL, area and encouraged enlistees to become Special Forces Soldiers.
- From 1973 to 1977, Presley was assigned as to the Special Forces School as an Advisor and Instructor to officer and enlisted students in Phase I and Phase III of the Special Forces Qualification Course.
- From 1977 to 1979 he was assigned as an Evaluator and Advisor to the Eskimo Scout program in Alaska where he was of great assistance in providing that program with reconnaissance and unconventional warfare skills that they had not previously possessed.
- In 1979 and until his retirement in 1981, he was assigned to the 1st Special Forces Operational Detachment-Delta. In that organization, he created innovative intelligence and briefing techniques that pioneered efforts for what has become the Global War on Terror. He helped to design the Evasion and Escape kits used on the fateful attempt to rescue 53 American hostages in Tehran, Iran, in 1980.

SFC Presley's contributions in retirement clearly demonstrate his continuing concern for current and former members of the Regiment and include:

- Chapter President of Chapter XLIII of the Special Forces Association from 2005-2009, until illness caused him to prematurely resign his duties as Chapter President.
- Twenty Year pin recipient and Life Member of the Special Operations Association.
- One of the founders and a Board member of the Operational Advocates Supporting Injured Soldiers (OASIS) Group that has assisted numerous members of the Regiment with Veterans Administration claims and to gain increased benefits. He has been a great source of encouragement and wisdom to special operations veterans that heretofore have not received the benefits they earned and that were frustrated with the Veterans Administration process.
- He continues to work closely and is held in high regard by Montagnard former CIDG and SCU soldiers and their families by providing advice, assistance, and guidance to the community. He was instrumental in getting them to register as voters and to participate in Parent Teacher Associations in North Carolina and Washington state.
- Quietly, he initiated the involvement of Mr. Ross Perot and retired GEN Wayne Downing that led to the rescue of some 35 Nung families who had served with US Special Forces in Vietnam and were about to be deported back to Vietnam from Hong Kong. In keeping with the motto of the "Quiet Professional", SFC Presley has never sought nor received acclaim for these and other efforts to help those who have sacrificed for our Nation.
- Eulis Presley planned, organized, and coordinated the 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne) 50th Year Reunion in 2007. This Reunion brought together current active duty members of the 1st

SFGA with those who had served from the time the Group was first organized. He also provided great behind-the-scenes efforts to support two previous 1st SFGA reunions in the Seattle-Tacoma area in 1987 and 1996.

- Has worked quietly and without recognition to support current and former members of the Regiment along with their dependents and widows in the Seattle/Tacoma area by providing assistance with memorials for the fallen, medical problems, and survivor benefits.

SFC Presley's accomplishments and contributions to the Special Forces Regiment, especially in retirement, rank him well above his peers. He continues to serve with distinction in a quiet, humble way without seeking recognition or praise for his efforts. Accordingly, he epitomizes the Special Forces Soldier and his selection into the DMOR is a fitting honor for a true Special Forces Warrior.

I can be reached at (703) 989-0983 for further details regarding this exemplary member of the Regiment.

Sincerely,

Wade Y. Ishimoto
CPT (USA Ret), SF