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From: DOD, ARMY, ORGANIZATIONS, AHRC, HRC AG(UC), HRC MILITARY AWARDS
BR(UC)
Subject: NATO Medals (Article 5 and Non-Article 5) -- CHANGE 1

UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.
A. Deputy Secretary of Defense Memorandum, dated 2 March 2006.

B. MC DIRECTIVE 475/1, SUBJ: NATO Medal Policy and General Regulations, dated 13 January 2004.

C. DOD 1348.33-M, Manual of Military Decorations and Awards, dated September 1996.

1. The Deputy Secretary of Defense has approved the acceptance and wear of the following NATO Medals. These medals are authorized for U.S. Military and U.S. Civilian personnel.

a. NATO Medal (Operation EAGLE ASSIST).
b. NATO Medal (Operation ACTIVE ENDEAVOR).
c. NATO Medal (International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan).
d. NATO Medal (Balkans).

2. ELIGIBILITY. Specific criteria for the above NATO Medals are as follows:

a. NATO Medal (Operation EAGLE ASSIST).
1) Authorized to be awarded to service members in support of Operation EAGLE ASSIST in the NAEW&C, deployed in the area of operation and who meet the period of qualifying service.
2) The area of operation for Operation EAGLE ASSIST is the United States, and the air space of North America as tasked by the North American Aerospace Defense Command.
3) The qualifying period in the area of operation is thirty (30) days continuous or accumulated service between dates 12 October 2001 and 16 May 2002.

b. NATO Medal (Operation ACTIVE ENDEAVOR).
1) Authorized to be awarded to service members in support of Operation ACTIVE ENDEAVOR, either as individuals or as part of an element of the

Standing Naval Force (SNF), and in accordance with the eligibility criteria described below. Entitlement will be acquired by those forces under both NATO and national command or control available to the Commander of the in place SNF appointed as Commander, Task Force ENDEAVOR and only while in the area of operation.

2) Operation ACTIVE ENDEAVOR is conducted in the international waters of the Mediterranean Sea, and the airspace above it.

3) The qualifying period in the area of operation is thirty (30) days continuous or accumulated service from 26 October 2001 to a date to be determined.

c. NATO Medal (International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan).

1) Eligible personnel are those who are members of units or staffs as set out in the Joint Operations Area (JOA) Combined Joint Statement of Requirements taking part in NATO operations in Afghanistan in accordance with the qualifying conditions. Entitlement will be acquired by those forces under NATO command or control while in the JOA, and those deployed to the JOA under national command in support of the NATO operation.

2) The area of operation. The Afghanistan JOA is delineated as the political boundaries and airspace of International Security Assistance Force OPLAN.

3) The qualifying period in the Afghanistan JOA is thirty (30) days continuous or accumulated service from 1 June 2003 to a date to be determined.

d. NATO Medal (Balkans).

1) Eligible personnel are those who are members of units or staffs as set out in the Joint Operations Area (JOA) Combined Joint Statement of Requirements taking part in NATO operations in the Balkans in accordance with the qualifying conditions. Entitlement will be acquired by those forces under NATO command or control while in the JOA, and those deployed to the JOA under national command in support of the NATO-led operations.

2) The area of operation. The Balkans JOA is delineated as the political boundaries and airspace of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, FORMER REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA (including Kosovo), Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and Albania, based on the detailed description contained in the SFOR, KFOR [and TF Fox] OPLANs.

3) The qualifying period in the Balkans JOA is thirty (30) days continuous or accumulated service from 1 January 2003 to a date to be determined.

e. Aircrew will accumulate one days service for the first sortie flown of any day in the area of operation; additional sorties flown on the same day receive no further credit. This requirement exists for support as well as combat aircraft; support aircraft include tanker, airlift and surveillance platforms.

f. Service members wounded or injured and subsequently require evacuation from the defined area of eligibility, regardless of time in the AOE, qualify for the appropriate NATO Medal.

3. Those service members, by virtue of their duties or location, that are eligible for more than one NATO Medal during the same period, will only be awarded the NATO Medal for one campaign or operation. The NATO chain of command will decide which NATO medal is appropriate.

4. All exceptions will be made by the NATO Secretary General.

5. The following information outlines instructions for wear, order of precedence, ribbon clasp, and subsequent awards.

a. PRECEDENCE. The NATO Medal will have the same precedence as the United Nations Medal, but will rank immediately below the United Nations Medal when the wearer has been awarded both decorations.

b. RIBBON CLASP. The NATO Medal presentation set may include a ribbon clasp denoting the specific Operation for which the award was made. U.S. service members are authorized to retain the ribbon clasp if presented; however, the wearing of the ribbon clasp with the NATO Medal or service ribbon is not authorized for U.S. service members. U.S. service members may wear only the basic medal or service ribbon.

c. SUBSEQUENT AWARDS. To recognize subsequent awards (if approved by the Secretary of Defense or his designee) for service in a different NATO operation, U.S. Service members will affix a bronze star to the NATO Medal suspension ribbon and service ribbon.

6. Service members that did not receive the NATO Medal, and inquiry efforts were exhausted with the deployed unit or if their certificate was lost or requesting a replacement NATO Medal or certificate, must submit a request to the USNMR at SHAPE Belgium: usnmr@benelux.army.mil or Fax: 011 32 65 44 7666. The request must include the following information: SSN, NAME, RANK, NAT, SVC, UNIT, LOCATION, PERIODS(S), and NO DAYS.

SSN	NAME	RANK	NAT	SVC	UNIT	LOCATION	NO DAYS
123456789	SMITH	MAJ	US	A	HQ SFOR	BOSNIA	48
234567890	BROWN	SGT	US	F	HQ KFOR	KOSOVO	98
555889999	BLACK	YN1	US	N	HQ SFOR	BOSNIA	66

NOTE:
SSN: Social Security Number
NAME: Family name only
RANK: National or NATO rank abbreviated
NAT: Official NATO abbreviation for Nationality
SVC: A (Army), F (Air Force), N (Navy), M (Marine Corps), C (Civilian)
UNIT: Unit with which deployed to theater
LOCATION: The simple location in which unit engaged
NO DAYS: Number of days claimed towards eligibility for medal (over 30 days or 90 days)

7. For those currently deployed, the unit deployed with should submit the names of personnel eligible for the award of the NATO medal through their respective chain of command, to the USNMR (same format as mentioned above), who will forward the request to SHAPE J1. The request should be prepared in an EXCEL spreadsheet.

8. The NATO Medal is categorized as a foreign/international service medal. Permanent orders are not, repeat, are not required. The BDE and BN S1 sections may update personnel qualification records using this message as authority. The authorized abbreviation to annotate Section VIII of the ORB and Item 9 of the DA Form 2-1, and Section E on the ERB, and the eMILPO submission code to update the OMPF are as follows:

ABBREV: NATO MDL
DATA CODE: NT

9. As prescribed by paragraph 9-8, AR 600-8-22, this message constitutes USA HRC approval for eligible Soldiers to accept and wear the above listed NATO Medals.

10. Questions pertaining to this message should be address to the Military Awards Branch at AWARDS@HOFFMAN.ARMY.MIL, DSN 221-8700 or commercial (703) 325-8700.