



The Secretary of the Navy takes pleasure in presenting the NAVY
COMMENDATION MEDAL to

CORPORAL ROBERT L. LEBLANC

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

"For heroic achievement while serving as a Radio Operator with Headquarters Company, Fourth Marines, Third Marine Division in connection with combat operations against the enemy in the Republic of Vietnam. On 28 March 1969, a brush fire occurred on the northern perimeter of Fire Support Base Neville and the flames and flying sparks endangered the entire camp, in addition to causing unexploded rounds and defensive mines around the perimeter to detonate. With complete disregard for his own safety, Corporal LeBlanc fearlessly rushed into the hazardous area and carried stocks of ammunition to safe storage areas, cleared a fire break, and fought the fire until it burned out. During the entire time he was calmly moving ordnance and fighting the flames, rounds were exploding, some as close as twenty-five meters to him. On the following day, another brush fire threatened the Marine camp and Corporal LeBlanc again exposed himself to great danger in order to move ordnance and fight the fire. His heroic and timely actions inspired all who observed him and were instrumental in saving the camp from destruction by fire. By his courage, bold initiative and steadfast devotion to duty in the face of great personal danger, Corporal LeBlanc upheld the finest traditions of the Marine Corps and of the United States Naval Service."

FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY,

H. W. Buse Jr.

H. W. BUSE, JR.

LIEUTENANT GENERAL, U. S. MARINE CORPS
COMMANDING GENERAL, FLEET MARINE FORCE, PACIFIC