~ USS MARVIN SHIELDS ~
SHIP 13
History and the Coin
PART #2

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Chapter 4
THE FAN TAIL (BACK)

USS Marvin Shields
Ship-13
The Meaning of the
Recruit Training Command (RTC)
Great Lakes Challenge Coin
THE REST OF THE STORY
(The Long Version)
THE REST OF THE STORY
(The Long Version)

Side entrance of the USS Marvin Shields

Your sailors will normally enter the “ship” from the side entrance.
(Example: this is the USS Triton ship-12)
THE USS Marvin Shields – SHIP 13
@ RTC

USS Marvin Shields quarterdeck (main entrance)
The commissioning and ribbon cutting ceremony of the USS Marvin Shields using a reciprocating saw (Sawzall) by a Seabee.
On the next page find these sailors....
We will soon be talking about them....

Retired former EQCM Johnny R. McCully points his youthful self out to BUC John Woolston, a Seabee and RTC Recruit Division Commander.

In a couple pages you will know who these people are.

The building, the heroes and their spouses: From left, Lillian Allen and former EO2 Jack L. Allen; Jane Mattick and former BUH2 Matt Mattick; retired EQCM Johnny G. McCully and Nina McCully; Elena Peterlin and former LT Frank A. Peterlin; and former EO2 John C. Klepfer.
Port Hueneme, California
Seabee Team 1104
(just prior to being deployed to Vietnam)

Kneeling:
CEW3 Richard S Supczak  EAS3 Frederick J. Alexander  * CM1 James D. Wilson  EON2 Jack L Allen
Wounded in Action (WIA)

Left side:  (standing)
EON2 John C. Klepfer
* BU1 Dale B. Brakken
Wounded in Action (WIA)
* SWF2 William C. Hoover
Killed in Action (KIA)

Right side:  (standing)
* LTJG Frank A. Peterlin
(Officer in Charge)
Wounded in Action (WIA)
* BUH2 Douglas M. Mattick
Wounded in Action (WIA)
* HM2 James M. Keenan
Wounded in Action (WIA)
* UT2 Lawrence W. Eyman
Wounded in Action (WIA)
* EOC Johnny R. McCully
(Asst Officer in Charge)
Wounded in Action (WIA)
* CMA3 Marvin G. Shields
(far right)
Killed in Action (KIA)

* = Men at Dong Xoai at time of battle
(as you can see, all men that were there, were either wounded or killed)
We will talk about these two sailors

Petty Officer’s Shields & Hoover
Both Killed in Action (KIA)

Kneeling: CEW3 Richard S Supczak  EAS3 Frederick J. Alexander  * CM1 James D. Wilson  EON2 Jack L Allen
Wounded in Action (WIA)

* = Men at Dong Xoai at time of battle (as you can see, all men that were there, were either wounded or killed)
So where exactly is the USS Marvin Shields (ship-13) at Great Lakes?
The recruit training base in Great Lakes consist of 3 separate properties:

- Camp Moffett - the main in-processing area. This is where the recruits will arrive.
- Camp Porter - the main recruit training area where most of the training is taken place, and where some recruits are housed.
- Camp John Paul Jones - mainly used for housing of the recruits.
The Canadian National railroad tracks separates Camp Porter from Camp John Paul Jones.

Keep on this road to go to the main Navy base NTC Great Lakes.

When coming from O'Hare airport to RTC Great Lakes just head north on I-94, which will turn into I-294. Turn right on Buckley Road (IL-137), go for 8 miles. You will see Camp Moffett on the left, and Camp Porter on the right.

BEQ = Bachelor Enlisted Quarters
ie the Ship (Barracks)

Note: Buckley Road divides Camp Porter (Left) and Camp Moffett (Right). There is a tunnel under the road that connects them together. The sailors will sing as they pass through the tunnel.
1 - USS Marvin Shields
2 - USS Arizona
3 - Division muster (meeting) point & Entrance with more than 8 recruits
4 - Entrance for staff & less than 8 recruits
5 - Galley (cafeteria) (1st Floor) & Training rooms (2nd floor)
6 - Main point of entry into Camp John Paul Jones (Railroad underpass)
7 - Canadian National railroad tracks
COOL PICTURE OF CAMP JOHN PAUL JONES
Notice that the Atlantic Fleet Drill Hall & USS Chicago (ship 7) are not built yet. Can you see it?
Notice that the Atlantic Fleet Drill Hall is not built yet, but the USS Chicago is?
Notice that the Atlantic Fleet Drill Hall is not built yet.
As with all maps, you will need a reference point to understand where you are...

- The reference point for Camp John Paul Jones (JPJ) is this railroad overpass.
- This is the main entrance into Camp JPJ, for both vehicle and pedestrian.
- There are other gates on Camp JPJ, but they are rarely/if ever used. They are basically used only to bring in landscaping and maintenance equipment.
When your sailors go to Battle Stations, Small Arms Training, Church the Navy Exchange, to exercise, Fire Fighting, Medical, Dental, etc...

They will march under this railroad bridge!
This is why the bridge was designed into the USS Marvin Shields – Ship 13 Challenge Coin.
TRIVIA QUESTION...

Question: How long did it take to complete the Canadian National railroad overpass?
Answer: Because the railroad line provides daily freight service to local businesses during the week, the construction of the bridge over the underpass had to be completed over a weekend when there was no rail service.
TIME TO PLAY “WHERE’S WALDO”...

Camp John Paul Jones, Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, IL

Question. Can you spot the main entrance to Camp John Paul Jones?
"WALDO" SAYS...

Camp John Paul Jones, Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, IL

"Dude... I’m right here"
The meaning of the blue background:

- Background blue represents the Navy ambitions to control the blue water.
The meaning of Honor, Courage, Commitment:

Throughout its history, the Navy has successfully met all its challenges. America's naval service began during the American Revolution, when on Oct. 13, 1775, the Continental Congress authorized a few small ships. Creating the Continental Navy. Esek Hopkins was appointed commander in chief and 22 officers were commissioned, including John Paul Jones. From those early days of naval service, certain bedrock principles or core values have carried on to today. They consist of three basic principles.

**Honor:** "I will bear true faith and allegiance ..." Accordingly, we will: Conduct ourselves in the highest ethical manner in all relationships with peers, superiors and subordinates; Be honest and truthful in our dealings with each other, and with those outside the Navy; Be willing to make honest recommendations and accept those of junior personnel; Encourage new ideas and deliver the bad news, even when it is unpopular; Abide by an uncompromising code of integrity, taking responsibility for our actions and keeping our word; Fulfill or exceed our legal and ethical responsibilities in our public and personal lives twenty-four hours a day. Illegal or improper behavior or even the appearance of such behavior will not be tolerated. We are accountable for our professional and personal behavior. We will be mindful of the privilege to serve our fellow Americans.

**Courage:** "I will support and defend ..." Accordingly, we will have: Courage to meet the demands of our profession and the mission when it is hazardous, demanding, or otherwise difficult; Make decisions in the best interest of the navy and the nation, without regard to personal consequences; Meet these challenges while adhering to a higher standard of personal conduct and decency; Be loyal to our nation, ensuring the resources entrusted to us are used in an honest, careful, and efficient way. Courage is the value that gives us the moral and mental strength to do what is right, even in the face of personal or professional adversity.

**Commitment:** "I will obey the orders ..." Accordingly, we will: Demand respect up and down the chain of command; Care for the safety, professional, personal and spiritual well-being of our people; Show respect toward all people without regard to race, religion, or gender; Treat each individual with human dignity; Be committed to positive change and constant improvement; Exhibit the highest degree of moral character, technical excellence, quality and competence in what we have been trained to do. The day-to-day duty of every Navy man and woman is to work together as a team to improve the quality of our work, our people and ourselves.

These are the **CORE VALUES of the United States Navy.**
Let’s talk about the MEDAL OF HONOR on the USS Marvin Shields - SHIP 13 coin
Construction Mechanic 3rd class (CM3)  
Marvin G. Shields  
Medal of Honor winner
Marvin G. Shields:

- Marvin Glenn Shields was born December 30th, 1939, in Port Townsend, Washington.
- He comes from a strong military family. His father, William G. Shields, was in the Army and subsequently retired as a Master Sergeant.
- Marvin’s early life was not easy. He learned early on that life was hard but you made the best of it. He has a younger brother who was his best friend. The two of them learned to hunt and fish to provide food for the family.
- Even though there were many chores at home, Marvin found time to play football during his high school years and even received the Football Inspirational Award his senior year of school. It is believed he received it because the coaches realized that he often walked home or “thumb[ed]” a ride after practice. It was a distance of 10 miles. Playing football was that important to him. He also held down jobs on local farms, and in the winter months dug clams at night on the beach in front of their home.
- He was a 1958 graduate of Port Townsend High School. While in high school he attended almost every week the local dances. This is where he met Joan. When he wasn’t on the dance floor with Joan, he was playing his guitar.
- Marvin joined the Navy in January 1962 and went to boot camp in San Diego. Even though boot camp can be difficult, he enjoyed the challenge and meeting new people. Marvin’s 1st duty station was in Brunswick, Georgia, at Glynco Naval Air Station working for public works. While on leave (vacation), he married Joan.
- After 6 more months in Georgia, he transferred to Port Hueneme, California for training before going to Okinawa Japan.
- While in Okinawa their only child, Barbara, was born January 11, 1964. He was transfer back to Port Hueneme in June 1964, where he became part of Seabee Team 1104.

Marvin only got to spend a mere 6 months with his daughter Barbara, he was 24.
What were the Navy “Seabee” ratings in 1965?

Today, the “Bee”s” have the same exact 7 ratings
No less, No more...
The Navy has learned, you don’t mess with a Bee, or you’ll be stung!

Note: HM - Hospital Corpsman are not Bee’s but they deploy with them
Port Hueneme, California
Seabee Team 1104
(just prior to being deployed to Vietnam)

Kneeling:  
CEW3 Richard S Supczak   EAS3 Frederick J. Alexander   * CM1 James D. Wilson   EON2 Jack L Allen
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(Asst Officer in Charge)  
Wounded in Action (WIA)
* CMA3 Marvin G. Shields  
(far right)  
Killed in Action (KIA)

* = Men at Dong Xoai at time of battle  
(as you can see, all men that were there, were either wounded or killed)
Petty Officer Shields awaits his Seabag Inspection
To understand the next section, we need to understand Vietnam in 1965.

The Communist North, and the US-backed South Vietnam were separated at the 17th Parallel. That was the dividing line.

However, people don’t follow the rules, each side pushed their forces over the line only to be pushed back.
The town of Dong Xoai was situated at the most important road junction in the heart of northern "War Zone D". The Special Forces had established a hugely fortified compound that had numerous strong points at strategic locations, thereby taking the entire area under their command.

Here is the town map of Dong Xoai (notice the circle that says “military camp”)

So what exactly happened?
How did CM3 Marvin Shields win the Medal of Honor?
The story of Dong Xoai

On June 9, 1965, the Viet Cong launched an attack on the Special Forces camp at Dong Xoai, as reported in major American newspapers. Initial reports were sketchy and the complete details were not made available until the four-day battle concluded. It was raining the night of June 9 while Navy Chief Johnny McCully stood watch at the CIDG camp’s construction project, fifty-five miles north of Saigon. At 23:45 hours it was reported that “the Viet Cong are all over the airfield,” moments after the first 3.5mm rocket exploded within the camp’s perimeter.

As 200 mortar rounds fell on Dong Xoai, a thousand-man enemy force had breached the outer perimeter. The communists used civilians from the village as human shields as they massacred groups of South Vietnamese soldiers defending the camp. The first volleys of fire had destroyed the unit’s communications capabilities and all but two small satchels of medical supplies. SWF2 (Steelworker-Fabricator, Second Class) William Hoover was wounded by a mortar fragment, and the camp commander was killed in the first wave launched by the Viet Cong. Second Lieutenant Charles O. Williams, U.S. Army Special Forces, assumed duties as commander.
Petty Officer Third Class Marvin Shields received shrapnel in the neck and back, but when he saw a tilt-trailer laden with burning ammo he raced to salvage what he could. The trailer exploded just after Shields retrieved 800 rounds of much-needed rearmament. He moved around the perimeter as he distributed the ammunition to his fellow defenders.

The now two-thousand strong enemy fought the 400 South Vietnamese and allied Asian troops, eleven Green Berets, and nine Seabee defenders with flame-throwers and the arms and ammunition that they had obtained at the primary defenses. Now, they were scrambling up the mud embankments of the berm that was the inner perimeter.

NXP/RSG1475475 – 6/11/65- Dong Xoia, So. Viet Nam: A South Vietnamese soldier holds his wounded son in his arms after finding the boy in the wreckage of this town which was overrun by Viet Cong guerrillas 6/10. U.S. officials said in Saigon 6/11 that 18 Americans have been killed or are missing in the past 24 hours of fighting here. UPI RADIOPHOTO SGP-49 hgr  June 13 1965
CM3 Marvin Shields steps up...

Petty Officer Shields and Hoover assisted in carrying men more critically wounded than themselves to safety. Hoover returned to his post and despite his wounds incessantly fired at the enemy until he was forced from his position by overwhelming odds. The entire area was in flames. Hoover dropped back even further as he fought the enemy's flame throwers. Finally, Petty Officer Hoover succumbed to the onslaught. He was killed on June 10, 1965.

The Viet Cong positioned a machine gun inside the compound's school building. The American defenders were pinned down by the now heavy machine gun fire. Lieutenant Williams picked up a rocket launcher and asked for a volunteer. Shields stepped forward even though he had been wounded a third time. "Know how to load one of these?" asked U.S. Army 2nd Lieutenant Williams (the other Medal of Honor recipient during this battle). "I'll learn fast" replied Shields.
Fierce Fighting...

Dong Xoai Retaken; 33 U.S. Casualties

Viet Cong pulled out of the embattled Dong Xoai area Friday morning following a day and a half of fierce fighting that cost the communists an estimated 700 killed and hundreds of weapons they left on the battlefield.

Three Americans were known dead, 15 wounded and 15 others missing in the fighting as an estimated four Viet Cong battalions overrun the town, 55 miles northeast of Saigon in Phuoc Long province, shortly before midnight Wednesday.

In their initial engagement the V.C. captured an airfield near the town and, undaunted by 105mm howitzer fire from defending forces, launched a fierce barrage of 60mm, 81mm mortar and 76mm recoilless rifle against

Dong Xoai, in the attack on June 10, 1965 (photo was taken sometime during or shortly after the battle)
CM3 Marvin Shields fires back…

In the midst of hostile fire, the two men crawled towards the school house. They knew that they might get only one shot at their target -- maximum accuracy was essential. In the face of certain death, they knelt in full view of the Viet Cong position -- unleashed their round -- and missed -- another round -- another miss -- a third -- it too was short of its target -- a fourth round as machine gun fire spattered around them -- their fourth round slammed into the enemy position -- the .30 caliber machine gun and its crew were destroyed.
Shields is hit!

From the western edge of the berm, automatic weapons fire shattered William's arm and tore through Shield's leg, almost severing it. Petty Officer Shields crawled to cover and tried to stop the bleeding by applying a tourniquet but passed out from the pain and shock. As the Viet Cong amassed for one final decisive assault a Special Forces sergeant radioed for help with a makeshift radio that he had jerry-rigged from parts after the standard communications had been destroyed.

Dong Xoia – Tragedy at Dong Xoai. A large force of Viet Cong massed a major attack on the Dong Xoai area last week. Casualties were many on both sides, but through the efforts of men like Maj Harvey L. Stewart, CO 118th Aviation Company the attack was beaten off. Shown above are some of the wounded who have been evacuated.
Shields had been retrieved after he had lost consciousness and was now in the headquarters building with the small band of defenders. He was hemorrhaging profusely but he never lost his spirit. He was instrumental in keeping the morale higher than it should have been under the circumstances. He laughed and joked with his fellow Seabees, “Everything’s going to be O.K.,” he assured them. “It can’t get any worse!”

By now, the Viet Cong were ready to take the headquarters building. The Americans would have to withdraw, but to where? And how would they take Shields with them? One final artillery position was the only refuge. As they picked up Shields, he told them, “Don’t drop me, I’m pretty fragile!” They carried and dragged Marvin Shields across a ditch, through barbed wire, and finally to the temporary safety of the mortar pit.
Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) units were sent in piece-meal to break the attack. They were no match for the already well-entrenched Viet Cong. The first contingent, consisting of 196 South Vietnamese troops and two U.S. advisors, was completely overcome. If it were not for continued napalm strikes, the Viet Cong would have been completely victorious. Of the original defenders of Dong Xoai, 300 South Vietnamese were killed, 16 Americans were wounded, and 3 Americans—including Hoover and Shields—were killed. 700 Viet Cong were killed in action.

The death, destruction, carnage, and heroism endured for four days. One report stated that Petty Officer Shields died before the helicopter arrived to evacuate him, while a conflicting report indicated that he died in the air shortly after the medical evacuation (medevac) chopper pulled out of the charred ruins of Dong Xoai.

In this June 1965 photo, South Vietnamese civilians, among the few survivors of two days of heavy fighting, huddle together in the aftermath of an attack by government troops to retake the post at Dong XOIA, Vietnam.
The strain of battle for Dong Xoai is shown on the face of U.S. Army Sgt. Philip Fink, an advisor to the 52nd Vietnamese Ranger battalion, shown June 12, 1965. The unit bore the brunt of recapturing the jungle outpost from the Viet Cong. (AP Photo/Steve Stibbens)
Both Petty Officers Shields and Hoover are honored
The story of Dong Xoai, Vietnam

Camp Shields at Chu Lai, Vietnam, was named in honor of Marvin G. Shields, and Camp Hoover at Da Nang, Vietnam was named in honor of William C. Hoover.

Hoover was awarded the Bronze Star for valor, and on June 23, 1966. President Johnson personally awarded the Medal of Honor to Lieutenant Williams the same day. Then, on September 13, 1966, the President presented a posthumous Medal of Honor to Joan Elaine Shields in honor of her husband. President Johnson said that Shields was "a new kind of fighting man, forged and tempered in a new kind of war, who gave his life for his country, his comrades and a good cause."

President Johnson was right: CMA3 Shields and his fallen Seabee companion SWF2 Hoover were indeed "a new breed." They would not have walked away from the situation and turn their backs on their fellow servicemen, even if they could have.
Family Photo's
Marvin, Joan,
& Barbara
Family Photo's
Marvin, Joan,
& Barbara
Family Photo’s
Marvin, Joan,
& Barbara
Family Photo’s

Marvin, Joan,
& Barbara
**Flowers sent today to Senator Richard Russell in [blacked out] Walter Reed Hospital w/ the President's card.**

Date: September 13, 1966

### The White House

**President Lyndon B. Johnson**

**DAILY DIARY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entry No.</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Telephone In/out</th>
<th>Activity (include visited by)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>11:55a</td>
<td></td>
<td>Oval Office - Presentation of Congressional Medal of Honor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Marvin Glen Shields was 25

and a construction mechanic.

3/c, U.S. Navy, when fatally

wounded on June 10, 1965. He
died in the same action in which a

previous Medal of Honor winner,

First Lt. Charles Q. Williams

received the Medal of Honor from

the President on June 23. Shields

had already been wounded when he

responded to a request from Lt.

Charles Q. Williams for a volunteer to help

destroy an enemy machine gun nest.

Shields and Lt Williams had accom-

plished their mission and were returning when they were shot by another machine gun and Shields was seriously wounded in the right hip. He died after evacuation by helicopter.

12:06p

**Oval Office - Presentation of Congressional Medal of Honor**

> to Mrs. Marvin Glen Shields (Jean) - 112 Howe Street, Seattle, Washington

First in the President's office were petty officers who served with Shields in VietNam:

BU1 Dale B. Brakken, USN, CM1 Lawrence W. Eyman, USN, CM1 James D. Wilson, USN, E01 Jake L. Allen, USN, HM2 James M. Keenan, USN, EOC Johnny R McCully, USN, and 1st Lt. Charles Q. Williams, who received the Medal of Honor on June 23 this year.

Followed by family:

- Father: Mr. Wm G. Shields
- Brother: Mr. Ronald Shields
- Stepmother: (Mrs. --- Korean lady)
- Brother's wife: Mrs. Ronald Shields
- Mother: Mrs. Victoria B. Cassally
- Mother-in-law: Mrs. Louise Campbell
- Half Brother: Mr. Frank Cassally

Then Mrs. Joan E Shields (widow) and her daughter, Barbara Dianne, age 2 1/2 -- accompanied by Secretary of the Navy, Paul Nitze. The President shook hands with Mrs. Shields and then stooped down to visit w/ Barbara, saying, "Let me show you my desk." The President took her to his "goody" drawer and gave her a piece of candy, a bracelet, and a pen. He then came around the front of the desk and with Mrs. Shields and Secy Nitze stood and posed for press pool and press photographers who had been let into the office. The President made REMARKS, Secretary Nitze read the citation. Commander Hobbs handed the President the Medal of Honor and framed certificate, and the President presented them to Mrs. Shields. "Let me show you my garden," said the President to Flower Garden w/ above group.

For pictures for news photographers. The President asked for the dogs to be brought over. He walked hand in hand w/ Mrs. Shields and the child... in truth a very touching picture, w/ the child's two hands being held on one side by its mother and on the other- the President. The President picked a bloom from a geranium plant and handed it to the little girl. He posed with the Navy Petty Officers who were in uniform. They had served in action with Shields in VietNam. He played with the two dogs--J. Edgar and Freckles--and stooped down to watch Barbara play with them.

**To Flower Garden w/ above group**

**Other Guests:**

- Admiral Horatio Rivero, Vice Chief of Naval Operations
- Rear Admiral Alexander C. Husband, Commander, Naval Facilities Engineering Command
- Senator Henry Jackson
- Mr. Brian Corcoran, AA to Sen. Jackson

Following the ceremony, Mrs. Shields went to the West Lobby for a press conference.
Mrs. Shields, Secretary Nitze, Barbara, the delegation, ladies and gentlemen:

A little over a year ago, 50 miles north of Saigon, a 14-hour battle raged fought by a small Special Forces team, a Navy Seabee Construction team, and Vietnamese troops, against an enemy which outnumbered them 5 to 1.

Nineteen American fighting men received citations for their valor in that battle.

The Seabee team earned a Navy Unit Citation.

Every man who fought on that long day was a hero.

But two men in particular stood out for the bravery they displayed.

One, Army Lieutenant Charles Williams, returned from Vietnam and received the Congressional Medal of Honor.

The other, on whom we confer that Medal today, did not return. He was Petty Officer Marvin Glen Shields.

The story of that day in that distant village is a story of his courage. At the very height of battle, he was everywhere--fighting with contagious zeal, helping his wounded comrades even after he was gravely wounded.

By his acts that day, Marvin Shields saved the lives of many of his comrades. He gave and kept on giving--until he gave what Lincoln called the "last full measure of devotion."

Marvin Shields was a new kind of fighting man, forged and tempered in a new kind of war. It is, first of all, a war of limited objectives. It is a war fought, not to gain territory or dominion, but to prove that despots cannot work their will by spreading the fires of violence.

In this war, the battlelines are not clear. But our goals are very clear. We intend to prevent the success of aggression. We intend to make it possible for a young nation to begin its experiment with democracy--without staring down the barrel of an aggressor's gun.

Such a war requires the full measure of physical courage which Marvin Shields displayed.

But it requires more. It demands, of all of us, a new kind of courage: the fortitude to endure a long and bitter and sometimes confusing struggle; it requires the patient courage to seek something more than a swift and terrible military triumph.

There are those who ask if such a struggle is worth the lives of our young men. To them, I say: study the answer which this man gave. Study the answer which other Americans are giving.
These men are fighting with one hand—and they are building with the other. They are building schools and hospitals. They are building bridges and dams. They are building dikes and roads. They are caring for the sick and injured. That is the kind of victory we seek.

We do not know when that victory will come. But surely the first long mile was reached on Sunday when 4,200,000 South Vietnamese citizens—more than 80 percent of that little country's registered voters—marched to the polls without fear to elect members of the constituent assembly. They gave us a lasting lesson in democracy.

In honoring Marvin Shields here in the White House today, we honor thousands like him. This is the first time in history that a Seabee has ever been awarded the Medal of Honor.

It does little good to offer up words of tribute to such a man as this one. Even the best words seem very pale in the light of his great gift to us.

but we do owe him these words, and I am going to say them:

Marvin Shields spent his life generously for his country and for his friends. His cause was a good cause. Our debt is a great debt.

Note: The President spoke at 12 noon in his office at the White House. His opening words referred to Mrs. Marvin G. Shields, Secretary of the Navy Paul Nitze, and the Shields' daughter Barbara Diane. Later he referred to Lt. Charles Q. Williams, USA, who was awarded the Medal of Honor on June 23, 1966 (see Item 268).

The text of the citation accompanying the award to Petty Officer Shields follows:

The President of the United States in the name of The Congress takes pride in presenting the Medal of Honor posthumously to

MARVIN G. SHIELDS

CONSTRUCTION MECHANIC THIRD CLASS UNITED STATES NAVY

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving with United States Navy Seabee Team 1104 at Dong Xoai, Republic of Vietnam, on 10 June 1965. Although wounded when the compound of Detachment A-542, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces, came under intense fire from an estimated reinforced Viet Cong regiment employing machine guns, heavy weapons and small arms, Shields continued to resupply his fellow Americans with needed ammunition and to return the enemy fire for a period of approximately three hours, at which time the Viet Cong launched a massive attack at close range with flame throwers, hand grenades and small-arms fire. Wounded a second time during this attack, Shields nevertheless assisted in carrying a more critically wounded man to safety, and then resumed firing at the enemy for four more hours. When the Commander asked for a volunteer to accompany him in an attempt to knock out an enemy machine-gun emplacement which was endangering the lives of all personnel in the compound because of the accuracy of its fire, Shields unhesitatingly volunteered for this extremely hazardous mission. Proceeding toward their objective with a 3.5-inch rocket launcher, they succeeded in destroying the enemy machine-gun emplacement, thus undoubtedly saving the lives of many of their fellow servicemen in the compound. Shields was mortally wounded by hostile fire while returning to his defensive position. His heroic initiative and great personal valor in the face of intense enemy fire sustain and enhance the finest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

Citation: Lyndon B. Johnson: "Remarks Upon Presenting the Medal of Honor Posthumously to Petty Officer Marvin G. Shields, USA."
http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/ws/?pid=27355.
The President of the United States in the name of The Congress takes pride in presenting the MEDAL OF HONOR posthumously to

CONSTRUCTION MECHANIC THIRD CLASS

MARVIN GLEN SHIELDS

NAVY

for service as set forth in the following:

CITATION:

For The President of the United States of America, in the name of Congress, takes pride in presenting the Medal of Honor (Posthumously) to Construction Mechanic Third Class Marvin Glen Shields (NSN: 3904693), United States Navy, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving with Seabee Team 1104, Mobile Construction Battalion Eleven, near Dong Xaoi, Republic of Vietnam, on 10 June 1965. Although wounded when the compound of Detachment A-342, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces, came under intense fire from an estimated reinforced Viet Cong regiment employing machineguns, heavy weapons and small arms, Construction Mechanic Third Class Shields continued to resupply his fellow Americans who needed ammunition and to return the enemy fire for a period of approximately three hours, at which time the Viet Cong launched a massive attack at close range with flame-throwers, hand grenades and small-arms fire. Wounded a second time during this attack, Shields nevertheless assisted in carrying a more critically wounded man to safety, and then resumed firing at the enemy for four more hours. When the commander asked for a volunteer to accompany him in an attempt to knock out an enemy machinegun emplacement which was endangering the lives of all personnel in the compound because of the accuracy of its fire, Shields unhesitatingly volunteered for this extremely hazardous mission. Proceeding toward their objective with a 3.5-inch rocket launcher, they succeeded in destroying the enemy machinegun emplacement, thus undoubtedly saving the lives of many of their fellow servicemen in the compound. Construction Mechanic Third Class Shields was mortally wounded by hostile fire while returning to his defensive position. His heroic initiative and great personal valor in the face of intense enemy fire sustain and enhance the finest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service.
Lest We Forget These Two SEABEE’s

Hero’s Who Gave All...

What is a hero?

They are the ones who rises to the call of duty in the time of great peril. They are the ones of the ‘uncommonly brave’. They are the ones who are faithful to the trust of their forefathers. They are the ones you can always count on no matter how great the task or danger. They are the ones who always thinks of others first.

The hero can be as gentle as a whisper of encouragement for a dying buddy. They can be as tough as lifting live ammo from a burning vehicle. They are the friends and a co-worker. Their life’s are precious to them, yet they willingly stand by to give us their all so others may live in peace without fear.

Shortly before midnight on June 9th, 1965, CM3 Marvin G. Shields and SWF2 William C. Hoover, along with seventeen other American Servicemen and four-hundred Vietnamese soldiers, were abruptly awakened by the piercing scream of incoming mortar and 57 mm recoilless rifle rounds. The Viet Cong had commenced one of the fiercest battles thus far in the Vietnam war. Although these men were only two of the many heroes that night, they made the supreme sacrifice – they gave their lives.

“GREATER LOVE HATH NO MAN THAN THIS, THAT A MAN LAY DOWN HIS LIFE FOR HIS FRIENDS.”

John 15:13 (KJV)
Marvin Glenn Shields was born on 30 December 1939. His home of record was Port Townsend, Washington. He was killed in action June 10, 1965 from small arms fire, he was 25. His name is inscribed on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial on the east wall, panel 2E, line 7.

William Clifton Hoover was born on 4 December 1939. His home of record was San Diego, California. He was killed in action June 10, 1965 from Mortar Artillery, he was 25. His name is inscribed on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial on the east wall, panel 2E, line 5.
So what happen to Marvin’s wife (Joan) and the Baby (Barbara)?

Joan, who was a widow at the young age of 21, remarried to retired Captain Richard A. Bennett, USN and lives in Gardiner Washington, which is about 6 miles from where Marvin grew up.

Barbara, who was only 1 year and 5 months old when her dad died. She passed away on April 28th 2012 at the age of 48 from heart failure in Port Angles, Washington. Barbara grave is adjacent to her father’s. Both mom and daughter were very active with the Seabee’s.

Joan, 23 yr old, and daughter Barbara receives the Medal of Honor for Marvin from President Johnson.

Barbara, 2 yr 8 months with President Johnson.
Where is Marvin G. Shields buried?

- Marvin Shields was raised in the small town of Gardiner, Washington. His wife wanted him buried in his home town instead of Arlington cemetery.
- He is buried at Gardiner Cemetery, Gardiner, Washington.
God bless you shipmates!
You shall not be forgotten!
USS Marvin Shields – FF-1066
“The Fast Frigate”
USS MARVIN SHIELDS
COMMISSIONED TODAY

Built By Todd Shipyards Corp.
Seattle, Wash.

U.S. NAVY
TEAMWORK

1066

NEW YORK, NY
APR 10 1971

U.S. NAVY
665 MARVIN SHIELDS (DE-1066) BR.
USS Marvin Shields (FF-1066), 1971-1995

- The USS Marvin Shields DE-1066 was commissioned on April 10th, 1971.
- On June 30th, 1975 she was reclassified a frigate and became FF-1066.
- On July 2nd, 1992 she was decommissioned and was stricken from the Navy Register on January 11th 1995.
- She was transferred to Mexico, and renamed Mariano Abasolo (FF-212) and entered active service in the Mexican Navy on November 23rd, 1998.
The End
The barrack at Great Lakes, USS Marvin Shields (ship-13), was named after the Knox-Class frigate (FF-1066) which served from 1971 to 1992.

The ship’s namesake, Constructionman 3rd Class Marvin G. Shields, was the first Sailor decorated during the Vietnam war and the first to earn the Medal of Honor. Petty Officer Shields was killed in action at Dong Xoai, where his unit came under a massive, intense, sustained attack. He repeatedly risked his life to keep his fellow Americans supplied with ammunition and to return fire for several hours. Though wounded twice, he carried another Seabee to safety and continued to return fire. In that time he also volunteered to assist his commander in destroying an enemy machine gun emplacement, saving many lives. He was mortally wounded while returning to his defensive position.

Ship - 13 at RTC Great Lakes was the 4th barracks (ship) built. It was commissioned on April 16th, 2004.

This coin is the 7th in the Navy Boot Camp series...
WHERE DO I BUY THE CHALLENGE COIN?

We proudly sell the Recruit Training Command (RTC) coin on Ebay.

- We are a start up company. Bear with us, as we get larger.
- This coin was developed for a sailor, by a sailor.
- To find us on Ebay, just search your sailor’s Ship’s Name, number, and the word “coin”:
  Example: USS Marvin Shields Ship 13 coin
PIRGifts.com is a strong supporter of the U.S. Navy and NavyDEP.com. A portion of their profits helps NavyDEP.com, which supports future sailors prepare for boot camp. We love the Navy, and we hope you do too.

Help us in also supporting:
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- www.cherishedaromas.com

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God bless all sailors...
May they sleep good tonight!

Oct 28, 1940