

RECOMMENDATION FOR DEcoration FOR VALOR OR MERIT (Effective 672-1)			
THRU: Commanding Officer FANK TC AAG APO SF 96227		FROM: Commanding Officer FANK TC AAG DEBTB APO SF 96240	
Chief, AAG ATTN: AAG-AD APO SF 96222			
1. NAME (LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE INITIAL):	2. SSAN:	3. GRADE	4. BRANCH/MOS:
LUCE, JOHN A.	AL8285	PO	RNZN
5. MONTHS	6. DEROS:	7. POSTHUMOUS AWARD:	8. DUTY POSITION TITLE:
9	30 Nov 72	( ) YES (X) NO	LABORATORY TECHNICIAN
9. ORGANIZATION AT THE TIME OF ACTION:		10. DATE(S) OF SERVICE OR ACTION:	
FANK TC AAG DEBTB, APO SF 96240		1 March 1972 - 30 November 1972	
11. CURRENT UNIT OF ASSIGNMENT:		12. PERMANENT MAILING ADDRESS:	
FANK TC AAG DEBTB, APO SF 96240		NZATGV SAIGON, SOUTH VIETNAM	
13. AWARDS RECOMMENDED:			
( ) DSC	( ) SM	( ) AM	(X) SERVICE
( ) SS	( ) BS "V"	( ) ACM "V"	( ) ACHIEVEMENT
( ) LM	( ) BSM	( ) JSCOM	— OAK LEAF CLUSTER
( ) DFC	( ) AM "V"	(X) ACM	— AWARD OF AIR MEDAL
		( ) PH	
14. PREVIOUS US AWARDS (Purple Heart and higher):			
DECORATION	DATE(S) OF ACTION/SERVICE	AUTHORITY	
N/A			
15. OTHERS RECOMMENDED FOR AN AWARD FOR THE SAME ACTION (NAME & AWARD):			
N/A			
16. NAMES OF EYEWITNESSES:			
N/A			

RECEIVED  
14 NOV 1972

MACV Form 200-R Replaces edition of 22 May 68 and MACV Form 127, 22 May 68  
15 Mar 72 which are obsolete

17. NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION:

PETTY OFFICER JOHN A. LUCE, Al8285, distinguished himself by meritorious service in connection with military operations against a hostile force while serving as a medic and a laboratory technician, Forces Armees' Nationales Khmeres (FANK) Training Command, Army Advisory Group, Dong Ba Thin Training Battalion from March 1972 through November 1972. Finding the laboratory services limited, MPO LUCE set about to obtain equipment and reagents needed to perform several valuable tests. The availability of these tests greatly improved the quality of care provided at Dong Ba Thin. He voluntarily assumed many duties outside the laboratory, to include seeing Cambodian personnel on daily sick call. Because of a shortage of personnel, MPO LUCE also voluntarily took over the duties of preventive medicine officer, one of the most important and thankless jobs in the Medical Section. His constant supervision of indigenous personnel and constant camp inspections resulted in a marked reduction in the food, water, and mosquito borne diseases afflicting Dong Ba Thin. He continued on to assist in the management of the almost nightly trauma emergencies, and set himself apart as a paragon of tireless work. His continual, but quiet and unassuming hard work, effort, and service, have made several valuable contributions to the health and effectiveness of this command, and thus immeasurably aided the successful accomplishment of the mission of the Forces Armees' Nationales Khmeres Training Command. MPO LUCE's outstanding duty performance was in keeping with the highest traditions of the New Zealand Navy and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

18. INCLOSURES:  Proposed Citation BIO Sketch	19. NAME/RANK/POSITION OF ORIGINATOR:  ROBERT E. DOWNEN LTC, Infantry Commanding	20. SIGNATURE AND DATE:  <i>Robert E. Downen</i> 20 OCT 1972
21. RECOMMENDATION OF THIS COMMAND:  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APPROVAL <input type="checkbox"/> DISAPPROVAL <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER	22. NAME/RANK/POSITION:  JOHN V. HEMLER, JR. Colonel, PA Commanding	23. SIGNATURE AND DATE:  <i>John V. Hemler, Jr.</i> 5 Nov 72

## SOURCE INFORMATION

**Source:** <https://www.fold3.com/image/268756759/1973-page-57-us-vietnam-service-awards-1965-1973>  
**Award Type:** [Blank]  
**Unit Designation:** Requests For Exception To MACV Dir 672-6 (C)  
**Date Year:** 1973  
**Conflict Period:** Vietnam War  
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