

DISTINGUISHED MEMBER OF THE SPECIAL FORCES REGIMENT



**SERGEANT FIRST CLASS
EULIS A. PRESLEY**

Inducted October 2010



Sergeant First Class Eulis A. Presley enlisted in the Army in July 1958, and joined the Special Forces Regiment in 1965 as a member of the 6th Special Forces Group (Airborne) following completion of the Special Forces Qualification Course.

In 1967, then Staff Sergeant Presley was reassigned to the 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), as the company commander for the 503 Nha Trang Mike Force, where he led his company on numerous missions supporting beleaguered Alpha Detachments and other SF units in heavy contact with the enemy.

In 1968, he was reassigned to the 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne) on Okinawa, followed by a temporary duty to the MACV SOG Command and Control South in Vietnam as a member of a Snakebite Team. During this time 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. In May 1969, he was transferred to MACV SOG Command and Control North, which was featured in John Plaster's book SOG.

Presley returned to the 1st SF Group in January 1970. He immediately volunteered for another tour of duty in the Republic of Vietnam (RVN) and was assigned to MACVSOG Command and Control Central, 5th SF Group. His first assignment was as Company B, Exploitation Force (Hatchet Force) 3rd Platoon leader. In February, 1970, he led his platoon on Operation Half Back to establish a road block on Highway 110 in Laos. The successful operation allowed the U.S. Air Force to destroy more than 100 NVA trucks loaded with ammunition, POL and supply. In April 1970 Sgt. 1st Class Presley became the "One-Zero" of RT Washington.

In 1971, he briefly left the Army, but returned a year later and was assigned as a recruiter in Chicago. From 1973 to 1977 Presley was assigned to the Special Forces School as an adviser and instructor to the officer and enlisted students in Phases 1 and 3 of the Special Forces Qualification Course.

From 1977 to 1979, his follow-on assignment was as an evaluator and adviser to the Eskimo Scout program in Alaska, where he provided reconnaissance and unconventional warfare training to the students in the program.

From 1979 until his retirement in 1981, he was assigned to the 1st Special Forces Operational Detachment-Delta, where he helped create innovative intelligence and briefing techniques. He also helped design the evasion and escape kits used on the ill-fated rescue attempt of the American hostages from Iran in 1980.

Following his retirement, Presley remained active in the SF community, serving as the President of the Chapter XLIII of the SF Association from 2005- 2009. He received the 20-year pin and Life Member of the Special Operations Association, and was one of the founders and a board member of the Operational Advocates Supporting Injured Soldiers Group. The group assisted numerous members of the regiment with VA claims and worked to gain increased benefits for service members.

He has worked closely with, and is held in high regard by, Montagnard former CIDG and SCU Soldiers and their families. In North Carolina and in Washington State, he was instrumental in getting them to register as voters and to participate in Parent Teacher Associates. He initiated the involvement of Ross Perot and Gen. Wayne Downing to rescue some 35 Nung families who had served with U.S. Special Forces in Vietnam.

While SFC Presley is currently on home hospice status, he was formally inducted as a Distinguished Member of the Regiment on Oct. 8 at 1st SFG (A) by MG (Retired) Sidney Shachnow, Honorary Colonel of the Regiment.