U.S. ARMY SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND FACT SHEET

U.S. ARMY SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE FORT BRAGG, NC 28310 / (910) 432-6005 / <u>http://www.soc.mil</u> and on Facebook at <u>http://www.facebook.com/usasoc.mil</u>

FALLEN SPECIAL OPERATIONS SOLDIERS MEMORIAL WALL

In 2009, the USASOC embarked on an ambitious project to replace the wellworn wall with a new one of an appearance and stature more befitting the level of sacrifice of USASOC's fallen warriors and that of their families. The Soldiers' nameplates removed from the old USASOC Memorial Wall were smelted at the Bend Bronze Foundry in Estacada, Ore., and recast to form the centerpiece of the redesigned granite memorial unveiled during the 2010 **Fallen Special Operations** Soldiers Memorial Ceremony.



Today, the granite Memorial Wall, capped by a bronze eagle statue designed by famed Oregon artist Lorenzo Ghiglieri, displays the names of 1,134 fallen special operations Soldiers. The Memorial Wall represents more than 60 years of loyalty, commitment and service to our country and is a place to honor the brave Soldiers who gave their lives and their families.

THE PREVIOUS MEMORIAL WALL OF HONOR

In 1995, a year after the U.S. Army Special Operations Forces Memorial Plaza was dedicated, the U.S. Army Special Operations Command Memorial Wall of Honor was unveiled incorporating bronze plates from the original plaza at the U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School.

That original Memorial Wall contained the names of 804 special operations Soldiers who were killed in the Vietnam War. Among those fallen Soldiers were 20 Medal of Honor recipients, 108 Distinguished Service Cross or Distinguished Flying Cross recipients, and 882 Silver Star recipients. In the years since the wall's dedication, more names have been added to remember all fallen special operations Soldiers from the Vietnam War to the present as well as a few from the Korean conflict. Each May around Memorial Day; USASOC conducts a ceremony adding the names of fallen comrades lost in the previous year.