

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the MEDAL OF HONOR to

FIRST LIEUTENANT MITCHELL PAIGE, USMC

for services as set forth in the following

CITATION:

"For heroic action and extraordinary courage above and beyond the call of duty and at the risk of his own life, while under heavy enemy fire during an attack by Japanese forces on Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands Group, October 26, 1942. Platoon Sergeant Paige was commanding a section of machine guns when the enemy broke through directly in front of his position. Commanding his men until they were all wounded or casualties, he then manned the guns by himself, moving from position to position through the area under heavy enemy fire and attack. Losing one of the guns he manned the second gun; losing that gun, he ran to an adjacent unit, borrowed another gun and returned to the battle through enemy grenade, machine gun, and mortar fire. Succeeding in delaying the enemy advance on that flank of the break-through until the arrival of reinforcements, he then succeeded in driving the enemy back. Without his outstanding action and courageous initiative in the face of overwhelming odds, the enemy would have succeeded in exploiting their break-through.