

Who Are We?

The Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association is a Non-Profit Association of Active Duty Members, Retired Members, Reserve Members, and Honorably Discharged Former Members of the United States Coast Guard who served in, or provided direct support to combat situations recognized by an appropriate military award while serving as a member of the United States Coast Guard.

The United States Coast Guard has participated in every war declared and undeclared, since 1790. Its combat veterans have contributed outstanding service and many paid the ultimate price for safeguarding the freedom of the nation.

The Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association is dedicated to extending the knowledge of the Coast Guards service and participation in the those significant historical events in United States history. The CGCVA provides a living link between the present and past so that the future may learn and develop from it.

Membership Eligibility

The receipt of any of following service awards establishes membership requirements for any active, reserve / retired or honorably discharged Coast Guard member who served in support of such missions. Written proof of award receipt is required through the submission of discharge documentation such as a copy of a DD-214, DD-215, or copy of discharge (reverse lists awards).

Associate, non-voting membership are available for those U.S. Coast Guard members meeting the combat criteria while in the service of another Armed Force. The U.S. Public Health Service members who served as member of the U. S. Coast Guard combat command, and spouse, child, or orphan of a deceased Coast Guard Combat Veteran are also eligible..

Medal & Award Requirements

World War I	6 Apr 1917 – 1 Apr 1920
Navy	6 Apr 1917 – 30 Apr 1920
Army Occupation of Germany	12 Nov 1918 – 11 Jul 1923
Yangtze Service	3 Sep 1926 – 21 Oct 1927
Second Nicaraguan Campaign	27 Aug 1926 – 2 Jan 1933
China Service Medal	7 Jul 1937 – 7 Sep 1939
American Defense Service (w/ Foreign Service Clasp)	8 Sep 1939 – 2 Mar 1946
World War II American Campaign	7 Dec 1941 – 2 Mar 1946
Asiatic – Pacific Campaign -	7 Dec 1941 – 2 Mar 1946
European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign	7 Dec 1941 – 2 Mar 1946
	12 Sep 1945 - 1 Apr – 1957
Korean Service Medal	27 Jun 1952 – 27 Jun 1954
Korean Defense Service Medal	27 Jun 1954 to Indeterminate.
Vietnam Service Medal	4 Jul 1965 – 28 Mar 1973
Southwest Asia Service Medal (Desert Shield / Desert Storm)	2 Aug 1990 – 30 Nov 1995

Afghanistan Campaign	24 Oct 2001 to Indeterminate
Iraq Campaign	19 Mar 2003 to Indeterminate
Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary	11 Sep 2001 to Indeterminate.

Combat Action Ribbon

(as amended by PL106-65, Sec. 564, Oct. 5, 1999)

World War II	7 Dec 1941 – 14 Apr 1946 *
Korea	27 June 1950 - 27 July 1954*
Vietnam to Present	1 Mar 1961 to Indeterminate

Coast Guard Combat Action Ribbon (established 2009)

No Theater of Action yet described - No Dates

* The above dates for WWII and Korea are those established by the Secretary of the navy, the Coast Guard has made no official determination. The Public Law only mentions after 7 Dec 1941 and prior to 1 Mar 1961.

Occupation Forces Army Navy

Italy	8 May 1945 – 15 Dec 1947
Germany	8 May 1945 – 5 May 1955
Austria	8 May 1945 – 25 Oct 1955
Asiatic Pacific	2 Sep 1945 – 27 Jun 1952
Trieste	9 May 1945 - 26 Oct 1954

Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal

Berlin	14 Aug 1961 - 1 Jun 1963
Lebanon	1 Jul 1958 - 1 Nov 1958
Quemoy & Matsu Islands	23 Aug 1958 - 1 Jun 1963
Taiwan Straits	23Aug1958-1Jan1959
Congo	15 Jul 1960 - 1 Sep 1962 and 23-27 Nov 1964
Laos	19 Apr 1961 – 7 Oct 1962
Vietnam	1 Jul 1958 – 7 Oct 1965
Cuba	24 Oct 1962 – 1 Jun 1963
Dominican Republic	28 Apr 1965 - 21 Sep 1966
Korea	1 Oct 1966 - 30 Jun 1974

Cambodia and Thailand	29 Mar 1973 - 15 Aug 1973
Cambodia Evacuation	29 Apr 1975 - 30 Apr 1975
Mayaguez Operation	15 May 1975
Operations in Libya	12-17 Apr 1986
Grenadian Operation "Operation Urgent Fury"	23 Oct 1983 - 21 Nov 1983
Lebanon	Jun 1983 - 1 Dec 1987
Operation Earnest Will Persian Gulf	24 Jul - 2 Aug 1990
Panama - Operation Just Cause	20 Dec 1989 - 31 Jan 1990
Haiti - Uphold Democracy	16 Sep 1994 - 31 March 1995
Operation Desert Thunder (Iraq)	11 Nov 1998 to 22 Dec 1998
Operation Desert Fox (Iraq)	16 Dec 1998 to 22 Dec 1998
Operation Desert Spring (Iraq)	31 Dec 1998 - TBD
Operation Maritime Intercept (Iraq)	1 Dec 1995 - TBD
Operation Vigilant Sentinel (Iraq)	1 Dec 1995 - 1 Sep 1997
Operation Northern Watch (Iraq)	1 Jan 1997 - TBD
El Salvador	1 Jan 1981 - 1 Feb 1992
Operation Joint Guard (Bosnia)	20 Dec 1996 - 20 Jan 1998
Operation Joint Endeavor (Bosnia)	20 Nov 1995 - 16 Dec 1996
Operation Joint Forge (Bosnia)	21 Jun 1998 - TBD
Operation Southern Watch	1 Dec 1995 - TBD
Operation Secure Tomorrow (Haiti)	29 Feb 2004 - 15 Jun 2005
Kosovo Campaign Medal (KCM)	24 Mar 1999 – 31 Dec 2013

Navy and Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal

Thailand Military Operation	16 May 1962 - 10 Aug 1962
Cuban Military Operation	3 Jan 1961 - 23 Oct 1962
Iranian, Yemen, and Indian Ocean Operations	8 Dec 1978 - 6 Jun 1979
	21 Nov 1979 - 20 Oct 1981
Lebanon	20 Aug 1982 - 31 Dec 1983
Libyan Expedition	20 Jan 1986 - 27 Jun 1986
Persian Gulf	1 Feb 1987 - 23 Jul 1987
NATO Medal	1 July 1992 to Indeterminate

Membership Application Form

Send Applications to:

CGCVA C/O Gary Sherman P O Box 777

Havre De Grace, Maryland 21078