

RECOMMENDATION FOR DECORATION FOR VALOR OR MERIT (MAY Directive 672-1)			
THRU: Commanding Officer PANK TC AAG APO SF 96227		TO: Chief, AAG KRTN: AAG-AD APO SF 96222	FROM: Commanding Officer PANK TC AAG DBTB APO SF 96240
1. NAME (LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE INITIAL): BLAKENAY, IAN W.		2. SSAN: Qh1092	3. GRADE SGT
4. DATES 30 Nov 72		5. POSSESSIONS AWARD: ( ) YES (X) NO	6. DUTY POSITION TITLE: MEDICAL INSTRUCTOR
7. ORGANIZATION AT THE TIME OF ACTION: PANK TC AAG DBTB, APO SF 96240		8. DATE(S) OF SERVICE ON ACTION: February 1972 - November 1972	
9. CURRENT UNIT OF ASSIGNMENT: PANK TC AAG DBTB, APO SF 96240		10. PERMANENT MAILING ADDRESS: NZAFCV SAIGON, SOUTH VIETNAM	
11. AWARD RECOMMENDED:			
<input type="checkbox"/> DSC <input type="checkbox"/> SM <input type="checkbox"/> AM <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SERVICE <input type="checkbox"/> SS <input type="checkbox"/> PS <input type="checkbox"/> ASM <input type="checkbox"/> ACHIEVEMENT <input type="checkbox"/> IM <input type="checkbox"/> BSM <input type="checkbox"/> JSCOM <input type="checkbox"/> OAK LEAF CLUSTER <input type="checkbox"/> DFC <input type="checkbox"/> AK <input type="checkbox"/> ACH <input type="checkbox"/> AWARD OF THE MEDAL <input type="checkbox"/> FR			
12. PREVIOUS AWARDS (Pawle Heart and Ribbon):			
DECORATION		AUTHORITY	
N/A			
13. OTHERS RECOMMENDED FOR AN AWARD FOR THE SAME ACTION (NAME & AWARD):			
N/A			
14. NAMES OF WITNESSES:			
N/A			

RECEIVED  
14 NOV 1972

17. NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION:

SERGEANT IAN W. BLAKEWAY, Q41092, Royal New Zealand Army Medical Corps, distinguished himself by meritorious service in connection with military operations against a hostile force from February 1972 through November 1972 while serving as the Noncommissioned Officer-In-Charge of the Medical Training Center, Forces Armee Nationale Khmere (FANK) Training Command, Army Advisory Group, Dong Ba Thin Training Battalion. Because of a continual turnover in medical personnel and a general lack of experience on the part of other medical personnel within the medical section, SGT BLAKEWAY, for six months, single-handedly managed the training of all Cambodian medics. This involved 6 battalions, 16 medics per battalion, throughout a six week training program. His work involved manipulating schedules and directing the activities of four instructor interpreters, and teaching many of the classes himself. At many times, he would be running two classes, each consisting of 16 students simultaneously, working far into the night to coordinate, create lesson plans, and score examinations, in order to ensure a smooth running program of medical instruction. With his usual tireless dedication, SGT BLAKEWAY felt that there were many deficiencies in the course and constructed an entirely new program of instruction oriented at the specific problems facing the Cambodian medics. In a frenzied four week period, he reconstructed the program of instruction, coordinated the writing of lesson plans, and wrote some 80% of the lesson plans used in this 168 hour course himself. He tirelessly worked to construct training aids and design practical exercises, which would teach and provide practice for the Cambodian medics. He then simultaneously ran two classes, one consisting of 32 medics and the other of 16 medics, through this new program. He coordinated almost single-handedly the logistic and personnel support needed. He proved himself a patient, sensitive lecturer and observer, and through his continued efforts, changes were made to even further improve the teaching. The course, he created, will be used long after his departure, and has resulted in a tremendous upgrading of the Cambodian Medical Training Program. He additionally assumed the duty of night duty medic for the entire camp on a weekly basis. He displayed considerable knowledge of medicine in his meticulous and successful management of a wide diversity of illnesses. SGT BLAKEWAY has made an immeasurable contribution to the mission of this Command, and his tireless, patient, and careful efforts and deep sense of purpose, undoubtedly have resulted in the saving of many Cambodian soldiers on Cambodian battlefields. SGT BLAKEWAY's outstanding duty performance was in keeping with the highest traditions of the New Zealand Army and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

18. INCLOSURES:

1. Proposed Citation
2. BIO Sketch

19. NAME/RANK/POSITION OF ORIGINATOR:

ROBERT E. DOWNEN  
LTC, Infantry  
Commanding

20. SIGNATURE AND DATE:

*Robert E. Downen*  
21 OCT 1972

21. RECOMMENDATION OF THIS COMMAND:

- (X) APPROVAL  
( ) DISAPPROVAL  
( ) OTHER

22. NAME/RANK/POSITION:

JOHN V. HEMLER JR.  
Colonel, FA  
Commanding

23. SIGNATURE AND DATE:

*John V. Hemler Jr.*  
5 Nov 72

## SOURCE INFORMATION

**Source:** <https://www.fold3.com/image/268756747/1973-page-45-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

**Content Source:** NARA

**Content Partner:** NARA

**Language:** English

**Country:** United States

**Nara Catalog Id:** Pending

**Nara Catalog Title:** Pending

**Record Group:** 472

**Year Added:** 2010