

**Houston-Holicky-Sitter Luncheon
11 February 2020
Ron Echols, USMC
James M. Slay Detachment Member**



 The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting
the **BRONZE STAR MEDAL** to
STAFF SERGEANT RONALD EUGENE ECHOLS
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

“For meritorious service in connection with combat operations against the enemy in the Republic of Vietnam while serving with Company M, Third Battalion, Twenty-Sixth Marines, Third Marine Division from 17 July 1967 to 16 June 1968. Throughout this period, Staff Sergeant ECHOLS performed his demanding duties in an exemplary and highly professional manner. As a Platoon Sergeant, he displayed initiative and leadership far exceeding that normally expected of a Marine of his rank and contributed significantly to the efficiency and morale of his unit. On numerous occasions, Staff Sergeant ECHOLS served as a Platoon Commander, a billet normally assigned to a commissioned officer, and repeatedly disregarded his own safety to maneuver his unit against the enemy. While his company was deployed on Hill 881 South during the siege of Khe Sanh, he worked tirelessly to ensure the safety and welfare of his men despite constant North Vietnamese mortar and artillery fire. His resolute determination and bold initiative inspired all who observed him and greatly enhanced the combat posture of his company. Staff Sergeant ECHOLS' exemplary leadership, outstanding professional ability and steadfast devotion to duty throughout contributed significantly to the accomplishment of his unit's mission and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and of the United States Naval Service.”

Staff Sergeant ECHOLS is authorized to wear the Combat "V".

**FOR THE PRESIDENT,
/S/ H. W. Buse, Jr.
H. W. BUSE, JR.
LIEUTENANT GENERAL, U. S. MARINE CORPS
COMMANDING GENERAL, FLEET MARINE FORCE, PACIFIC**