

**Subject:** Appeal of recommendation for award of the Medal of Honor to Col Philip J. Conran USAF (Ret)  
**From:** Kathleen Conley <kathleen.conley@gmail.com>  
**Date:** 9/29/2013 2:31 PM  
**To:** daniel.haulman@maxwell.af.mil  
**CC:** Phil CONLEY <PhilConley@cox.net>

Dear Dr Haulman

I have been referred to you by Dick Hallion, who was the historian at Edwards AFB while I was the Flight Test Center Commander. As you may be aware, the Air Force is in the process of revisiting the nomination for the Medal of Honor for Col Philip J. Conran, USAF (Ret), for his actions on October 6, 1969 in Laos.

I and many others in our community strongly believe that Colonel Conran is most deserving of this honor. We believe that although his actions meet the high standard for the award of the Medal it was downgraded to an Air Force Cross only because the action took place in Laos, and the presence there of US combat forces was not acknowledged at that time. Awarding a Medal of Honor for the actions described would have been tantamount to an admission that US combat forces were operating in Laos.

I have contacted the AF Military Personnel Center at Randolph AFB and was informed that the entire recommendation was destroyed including eye witness statements which are critical to the Board's deliberations. We are hopeful that these records and any other information that can be used to verify Col Conran's heroic action may have been preserved at Maxwell AFB. Anything you can do to help Col Conran receive the honor he so richly deserves will be most appreciated.

MG Phil Conley USAF (Ret)  
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The above e-mail is forwarded on behalf of General Conley by Kathleen Conley, Col, USAF (Ret)  
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Please find attached additional documentation pertaining to this matter.

Background information: <http://www.dtic.mil/dtic/fulltext/AV21a512223.pdf> The mission itself is referenced on p. 321 and there is extensive discussion of efforts to avoid revealing the full nature of US operations in Laos at the time.

Best regards,  
Kathleen Conley

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Attachments: \_\_\_\_\_

csar.PDF	1.6 MB
Scan0005.pdf	3.0 MB
Tab 1 Final Response - Conran.pdf	49.7 KB

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