★ Remembrances On This Day ★

November 4

"All gave some. These gave all."

8 DIC • 3 Awards

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DICs — November 4

Morgan B. Hansel

First Lieutenant Morgan Bernell Hansel TD 27-1943 was killed in action while fighting the enemy near Kaechon, North Korea on 4 November 1950 while serving with Company C, 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry Regimental Combat Team. For his actions on this date, he was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

Robert L. Adams

Second Lieutenant Robert Lee Adams, Jr. IN 5-1966 died from gun or small arms fire 4 November 1966 while serving with Company C, 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, RVN. He had been in country 35 days.

Gerald F. Currier

Captain Gerald Francis Currier IN 1-1962 died from gun or small arms fire on 4 November 1966 while serving with Company C, 2st Battalion, 27th Infantry, 25th Infantry Division, RVN. He had been in country 130 days.

Kevin G. Flaherty

Second Lieutenant Kevin Gregory Flaherty IN 26-1967 died from drowning on 4 November 1967 while serving with Company B, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division, RVN. He had been in country 29 days.

Edsall A. Frick

First Lieutenant Edsall A. Frick IN 46-1967 died from an other explosive device on 4 November 1968 while serving with Company C, 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, RVN. He had been in country 91 days.

Benny D. Clayton

First Lieutenant Benny Dean Clayton FA 36A-1967 died from gun or small arms fire on 4 November 1968 while serving with Battery A, 1st Battalion, 5th Artillery, 1st Infantry Division, RVN. He had been in country 46 days.

Thomas H. Baker

Major Thomas Hugh Baker IN 46-1953 died from cardiac arrest on 4 November 1968 while serving with Advisory Team 69, Headquarters, Military Assistance Command Vietnam Advisors, Military Assistance Command Vietnam, RVN. He had been in country 21 days.

Alfonso R. Castro

Captain Alfonso Roque Castro FA 9-1967 died from an aircraft crash due to bad weather on 4 November 1969 while a pilot serving with 192nd Assault Helicopter Company, 10th Aviation Battalion, 17th Aviation Group, 1st Aviation Brigade, RVN. He had been in country 336 days.

Valor Awards — November 4

Morgan B. Hansel

✦ DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS ✦

First Lieutenant Morgan Bernell Hansel TD 27-1943 was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for actions between 3 November and on 4 November 1950 while serving with Company C, 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment (Infantry), 1st Cavalry Division, Korea. When his unit was heavily engaged in trying to seize and hold vital high ground, Lieutenant Hansel noticed that the platoon on his right flank was receiving very heavy enemy machine-gun and automatic-weapons fire and was rapidly becoming disorganized. He left his position of relative safety and made his way to them under a hail of fire to effect their reorganization. Locating the enemy machine-gun and automatic weapons that were firing upon the platoon, Lieutenant Hansel arose to his feet and, with complete disregard for his own personal safety, charged the enemy emplacements single-handed, armed only with his carbine. He succeeded in reaching the hostile positions and killed the machine-gunner, giving almost instant respite to our forces, but in the ensuing, action he was mortally wounded by one of the remaining enemy automatic riflemen. Because of Lieutenant Hansel’s heroic attack despite the great odds and his gallant sacrifice, the endangered troops were able to complete their reorganization and rout the enemy from their positions.

Joe A. Kendall

✦ DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS ✦ HOF 2024

Second Lieutenant Joe Angel Kendall IN 9-1967 was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for actions on 4 February 1967 while serving with Company A, 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry, 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, RVN. Lieutenant Kendall crawled across bullet-swept firing lanes, contacted the forward elements, and led them safely back to his platoon's location. As the fight continued, one of his men was wounded and trapped in a lane. Disregarding his personal safety, he moved through a hail of bullets to reach the man and pull him to safety. He was wounded during the rescue but refused aid and continued to direct the actions of his troops. Determining that the Viet Cong were moving from lane to lane, he set up machine guns in momentarily abandoned firing strips to engage the insurgents when they returned. One gunner became separated from his crew, and Lieutenant Kendall dashed through heavy fire to re-supply him with ammunition and encourage the man.

Oscar L. O'Connor

✦ DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS ✦ HOF 2024

Captain Oscar Lee O'Connor IN 5-1964 was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for actions on 4 November 1967 while serving as commander Company D, 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division, RVN. While moving through the brush, a Soldier tripped a tripwire releasing a Viet Cong hand grenade wedged in the fork of a bush. Realizing that the grenade could destroy all of the men in his element, Captain O'Connor threw his body onto the grenade to smother the blast and yelled, "Grenade." Still expecting the grenade to explode at any instant, he ordered everyone out of the area. Captain O'Connor reached under his body, grasped the grenade and threw it into a bunker opening about five feet away. The grenade exploded the instant it entered the bunker, with the force of the explosion inflicting minor concussion and fragment wounds in the leg of Captain O'Connor. He is also the recipient of the Soldier's Medal and a Silver Star medal.

Data sourced from Army OCS Graduate records and official military archives.