

August 20, 1998

A. JAY CRISTOL

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

MIAMI, FL 33138

Dear Judge Jay;

Thank you so much for sending a copy of President Johnson's Daily Diary for June 11, 1968.

I stand corrected on my long held erroneous belief that the President had presented 12 Medals of Honor at the White House on the same day that I received my medal at the Navy Yard.

I still recall that there were several Medal of Honor recipients at the Washington Senators baseball game on the night of June 11, 1968. There are still two (2) family members that were there that night, but I haven't had a chance to contact either of them to see if they recall that event.

Thank you also for sending a partial copy of the front page of the New York Times dated June 12, 1968. I seem to recall that the same photo of me appeared on the front page of the Washington Post also dated June 12, 1968.

I appreciate the information you sent on why the medal was presented to me at the Navy Yard. If you have no objections, I will share that information with other LIBERTY crew members. It will serve to confirm what most already believe.

Your thoughts about "...if President Johnson wished to diminish the honor (of the award) he could have declined to sign the Citation..." seems to me to be sound reasoning.

Last, but not least, my congratulation on the signal honor that Pan American World Airways bestowed on you, for your helping guide them through reorganization and bankruptcy, by naming the first of their repainted planes "Clipper A. Jay CRISTOL." I am sure that it was a honor to personally fly the inaugural flight.

Very respectfully,



William L. Mc Gonagle
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