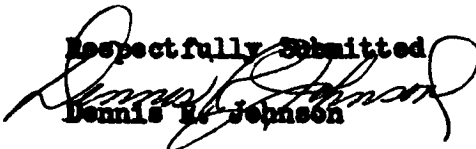


STATEMENT OF MSgt Dennis B. Johnson 561-54-2584, Team Commander,
21st Interrogation Translation Team, Headquarters Company,
Headquarters Battalion, 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF, Camp
Pendleton California, 92055

27 September 1972

I have known GySgt Loreth since April 1971, when I joined the 3rd Interrogation Translation Team in the Republic of Vietnam. GySgt Loreth was at that time assigned to the 95th Evacuation Hospital (US Army) acting as the Team Chief of an ITT Sub-Team. Upon my assignment to this Sub-Team and subsequently relieving GySgt Loreth as Team Chief, he continued to work with me in a manner which left no doubt in my mind that GySgt Loreth was a professional. During the ensuing two months that GySgt Loreth and I served together, GySgt Loreth distinguished himself through his skills as an interrogator and his excellent linguistic ability in conversing with Vietnamese in their native tongue. During this time period GySgt Loreth demonstrated his maturity and presence of mind in averting a crime, which was about to be perpetrated by an Army SSgt against an Army Technical Sergeant. GySgt Loreth disarmed the SSgt who was threatening to kill the Technical Sergeant with whom he had an earlier altercation. The weapon, which GySgt Loreth took from the SSgt, was a loaded M16 Rifle, which had been pointed directly at GySgt Loreth while he was attempting to placate and relieve the SSgt of the weapon.

In retrospect, GySgt Loreth has demonstrated to me that he is a mature, sober, professional Marine who continues to prove his value through his regular duties (in a billet two grades above his present rank), in demonstrating his knowledge of military skills in passing the SNCO Essential Subjects Test with a score of 99%. He is an excellent instructor, an outstanding interrogator and one of the finest Vietnamese linguists in the 0251 MOS, all of which adds up to GySgt Loreth being a valuable asset.

Respectfully Submitted

Dennis B. Johnson