



*The President of the United States*

*in the name of*

*The Congress*

*takes pleasure in presenting the*

*Medal of Honor*

*to*

**SIJAN, LANCE P.**

***Rank and organization:*** Captain, U.S. Air Force, 4th Allied POW Wing, Pilot of an F-4C aircraft. ***Place and date:*** North Vietnam, 9 November 1967. ***Entered service at:*** Milwaukee, Wis. ***Born:*** 13 April 1942, Milwaukee, Wis. ***Citation:*** While on a flight over North Vietnam, Capt. Sijan ejected from his disabled aircraft and successfully evaded capture for more than 6 weeks. During this time, he was seriously injured and suffered from shock and extreme weight loss due to lack of food. After being captured by North Vietnamese soldiers, Capt. Sijan was taken to a holding point for subsequent transfer to a prisoner of war camp. In his emaciated and crippled condition, he overpowered 1 of his guards and crawled into the jungle, only to be recaptured after several hours. He was then transferred to another prison camp where he was kept in solitary confinement and interrogated at length. During interrogation, he was severely tortured; however, he did not divulge any information to his captors. Capt. Sijan lapsed into delirium and was placed in the care of another prisoner. During his intermittent periods of consciousness until his death, he never complained of his physical condition and, on several occasions, spoke of future escape attempts. Capt. Sijan's extraordinary heroism and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty at the cost of his life are in keeping with the highest traditions of the U.S. Air Force and reflect great credit upon himself and the U.S. Armed Forces.