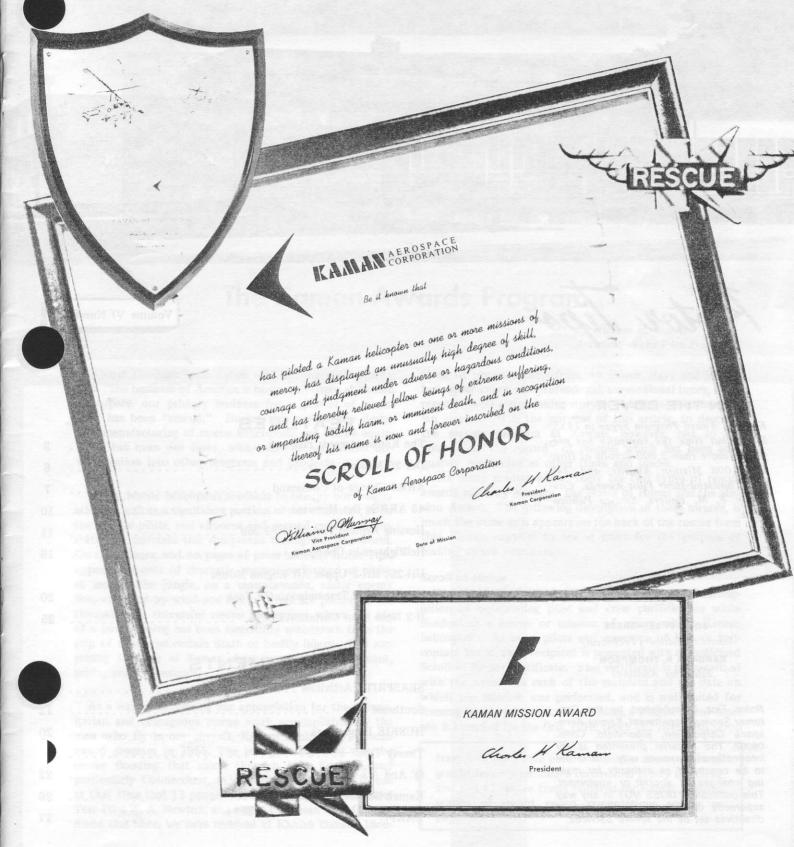
# KAMAN Rotor Tips



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# The Kaman Awards Program

By William H. Weaver Assistant to the Vice President

Calvin Coolidge once stated with characteristic brevity that "the business of America is business." Here at Kaman Aerospace, our primary business for a quarter of a century has been "rescue." During this period, the design and manufacturing of rescue helicopters and rescue equipment has been our forte, with more recent further divversification into other programs and products.

Today, rescue helicopters continue to occupy our imagination as well as a significant portion of our resources, as do the skillful pilots, and airborne and ground crews who operate and maintain this equipment throughout the world. On these pages, and on pages of prior issues of Rotor Tips, appear accounts of dramatic rescues performed at night, at sea, in the jungle, on a mountainside, under enemy fire, or tossed by wind and storm. Here are portrayed the thousands of successful rescue enterprises where the life of a human being has been mercifully withdrawn from the grip of otherwise certain death or bodily injury. Is it surprising that we at Kaman share a sense of excitement, pride, and enthusiasm?

As a way of expressing our appreciation for the humanitarian and courageous rescue work accomplished by the men who fly in our aircraft, Kaman established a rescue award program in 1955. The precipatating event was the severe flooding that swept through New England, and particularly Connecticut, in August of that year. It was at that time that 13 people were rescued by Kaman Chief Test Pilot W. A. Newton, and Flight Crewman Tom George. Since that time, we have received at Kaman literally thou-

sands of rescue reports from Air Force, Navy and Marine helicopter crews. In professional, unemotional tones, these reports reveal a continuing story of courage and humanitarian service. It is the purpose of this article, to describe the awards program at Kaman, however, not to expound on "the record" of rescues which has been adequately chronicled at other times and places.

As many readers know, there are two types of rescue awards made by Kaman: the Scroll of Honor and the Mission Award. The following description of these awards, is much the same as it appears on the back of the rescue form that Kaman supplies to rescue units for the purpose of making award nominations.

### Scroll of Honor

The KAMAN SCROLL OF HONOR is awarded in recognition of outstanding pilot and crew performance while conducting a rescue or mission of mercy with a Kaman helicopter. As most pilots and crewmen of Kaman helicopters know, each recipient is presented with a plasticized Scroll of Honor certificate. This certificate is personalized with the name and rank of the recipient and the date on which the mission was performed, and is well suited for framing by the recipient. In addition, a winged rescue lapel pin is awarded for the first, fifth, tenth and twentieth Scroll

Navy and Air Force personnel shown above in photographs taken after award ceremonies typify the UH-2 and HH-43 rescue crews honored by Kaman. Photographs of recent award presentations appear on page 5.





Award Review Board-A wealth of experience is represented in the four-man board which appraises each mission nominated for Scroll of Honor consideration. Appearing in the top left photo is Andy Foster, KAC chief test pilot. A former Marine pilot, Mr. Foster has almost 6,000 flight hours in helicopters. In top right photo is Anthony J. Carbone, vice president of Sales. An engineer and former U.S. Air Corps radar technician, Mr. Carbone has been associated with aviation oriented industries for many years. At right, Robert L. Bassett, supervisor, Customer Operations Section, and William E. Zins, director of Customer Service, examine a Kaman-produced forest penetrator seat widely used by helicopter rescue crews in Southeast Asia. Mr. Bassett, a former Air Corps technician, has served with KAC for almost 20 years and was chief service representative before being promoted to his present position. Mr. Zins, a former helicopter pilot, served with the Air Force for 20 years before coming to Kaman.

citation. The pins for the fifth and tenth missions differ from the first pin in that a gold star is added for the fifth mission, and a silver star for the tenth mission. The pin for the twentieth mission is the same as that for the tenth except that a small ruby inset is added.

Attaining a place on the Scroll of Honor is not a routine accomplishment, for the Scroll was originated with the purpose of giving recognition to those who have performed an unusually outstanding mission. Therefore, participation in a rescue or mercy mission is not, by itself, sufficient qualification.

To determine eligibility for the Scroll of Honor, a review board at Kaman appraises each mission nominated for the Award in terms of certain criteria. First of all, the mission must be a rescue mission or mission of mercy. In addition, the mission must call for an "unusually high degree of skill, courage and judgment" on the part of the pilot and crew while operating under difficult or hazardous conditions. In determining if accomplishment of a given mission qualifies for the Scroll of Honor, the review board takes into consideration many factors, among which are the following: night or restricted visibility en route; difficult or hazardous terrain en route; hovering with rotor blades in close proximity to trees, terrain, buildings, or other obstacles; required doppler approach to hover; extreme altitude and/or temperature where pilot technique and procedures are paramount; unusual weather conditions including high winds or





**Tie-Breaker**—William R. Murray, vice president—Test Operations/Customer Service, receives a mission report from Beverly Albani, Customer Service Coordinator. Mr. Murray, a veteran helicopter pilot, casts the deciding vote when the Awards Committee deadlocks as to whether or not Scrolls of Honor should be awarded for a mission.

severe wind gusts; performance of mission while under enemy gunfire. Almost without exception, several of these adverse factors must be present in those missions for which a Scroll of Honor will be awarded. The copilot will also be awarded the pilot Scroll if it is determined that he was as necessary to the success of the mission, in the role of pilot, as was the pilot, himself. Otherwise he will receive the crew Scroll, along with the other members of the crew.

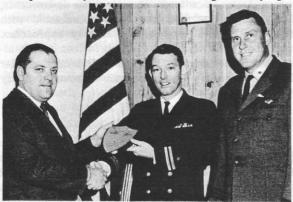
### Kaman Mission Award

The KAMAN MISSION AWARD is issued in recognition of the humanitarian service performed when any rescue or missions of mercy are accomplished that do not qualify for the Scroll of Honor. Pilots and airborne crew members participating in these rescues or missions of mercy receive a plasticized wallet certificate. This certificate verifies that the named individual "has served meritoriously in a Kaman helicopter participating in a mission of mercy." In addition, he will receive a rescue lapel pin for his first, tenth and twentieth mission citation. Similar to the Scroll of Honor awards, the pins for the fifth and tenth missions differ from the first pin in that a gold star is added for the fifth mission, and a silver star for the tenth; the pin for the twentieth mission is the same as that for the tenth except that a small ruby inset is added.

To date more than 2,000 Scrolls of Honor and 7,000 Mission Awards have been presented to pilots and crewmen of Kaman helicopters.

## One-Thousand-Hour Pilot Award

The ONE-THOUSAND-HOUR-PILOT AWARD is presented to pilots who have logged 1,000 hours in helicopters produced by Kaman. Commemorating this milestone in a pilot's professional career, 340 of these awards have been presented to date. In addition, Two-Thousand-Hour Pilot Awards have been presented to the first Air Force pilot and to the first Navy pilot to reach this milestone in Kaman helicopters. This award is made available only to the first pilot of each service to achieve this total. And finally, as announced last year, a Three-Thousand-Hour Pilot Award has been designed for presentation to all pilots reaching this particularly distinctive level during their flying career.





Rescue Record—William H. Weaver, left, who is responsible for management of the Awards Program, reviews rescue data with A. Lee Burton, Service Records group leader, and Pauline Branda. All rescue missions are logged into the record system; key information is fed into a computer with print-outs available for use in the development of future design and operational concepts. With reports in file of more than 3,000 lives saved by Kaman helicopter crews, it is estimated that the actual number is closer to 6,000 as there is no military requirement to report rescues to Kaman.

Only one pilot has earned this award to date. All three of these awards are shield-shaped plaques, suitable for wallmounting, and bear the name, rank and branch of service of the recipient.

At Kaman Aerospace, we have received many expressions of appreciation from the military services for the recognition we give to aircrews who fly company-produced helicopters. Let it be known, we regard as a privilege this opportunity to acknowledge through our awards program, the courage, and dedication to the saving of lives and reduction of suffering exemplified by the men who fly Kaman's rescue helicopters—those professionals whose "business" is rescue.



Pilot Award—Edward F. Noe, left, KAC service representative, presents a 1,000-hour plaque to Lt G. Clifford Houser, HC-2, NAS Lakehurst, N. J. On right is Cdr James F. Mozley, commanding officer of the squadron. (USN photo by PH2 P. J. Anerine) In right photo, Mr. Noe presents a plaque to Lt William L. Gsand, III, of HC-2. (USN photo by PH2 Perisse) LCdr Harley A. Backstrom, another UH-2 pilot from the squadron, also received one of the KAC plaques recently. Similar awards were made to Lt Carl E. Matyas, SAR Operations Dept., NAS Pensacola, Fla., and Lt Dennis H. Christian, HC-5, NAS Imperial Beach. Latest HH-43 pilots to log 1,000 hours in HH-43's are: Maj Robert R. Reeves, Det 25, 44th ARRSq, Eglin AFB, Fla.; Maj D. E. Longnecker, Det 14, 42nd ARRSq, Nellis AFB, Nev.; Capt James R. Murtha, Det 9, 38th ARRSq, Nakhon Phanom AB, Thailand.