

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
Indianapolis, Indiana
May 3-4, 1961**

**Resolution No. 73: Presentation of The American Legion Distinguished Service Medal to
President John F. Kennedy
Origin: Trophies, Awards and Ceremonials Committee
Submitted by: Internal Affairs Commission**

WHEREAS, The American Legion has created and from time to time has presented The American Legion Distinguished Service Medal in recognition of great and unusual service; and

WHEREAS, It is entirely in keeping with the purpose and traditions of this award that it should now be presented to a distinguished American who served his country with bravery and skill in the United States Navy during World War II from 1941 to 1945 and was decorated with the Navy and Marine Corps Medals and the Purple Heart; and

WHEREAS, He entered public life at the age of 30 and was three times elected to the United States House of Representatives and twice to the United States Senate, where his analytical mind, personal industry, and dedication to the fulfillment of America's high purposes marked him as a national leader; and

WHEREAS, On November 8, 1960 was selected by the American people for the presidency of the United States; and

WHEREAS, As president, has dedicated himself aggressively to rallying the forces of freedom not only to stem the advance of a determined and deadly foe but also to insure the survival and the success of free society both at home and around the world; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 3-4, 1961, That the Distinguished Service Medal of The American Legion be presented to John Fitzgerald Kennedy, president of the United States, commander in chief of the armed forces, and member of The American Legion.