On February 28,1929 the Seventieth Congress of the United States of America passed an act, Chapter 381 of the Statutes at Large, which created the Walter Reed Congressional Medal some 28 years after the services were rendered. The medal the act authorized is a congressional medal, which is not to be confused with the Medal of Honor given by the Armed Forces for valor in combat.

This congressional medal was awarded to 22 recipients in the early 1930's; it was not a continuing award. In July,1956 President Eisenhower signed into law an act of Congress whereby this medal was awarded to Gustaf E. Lambert, who with Dr. Roger Post Ames had been left out of the 1929 Act. Dr. Ames, however, was not added to the list of recipients. See "The Conquest of Yellow Fever", The Medal Collector, January 1957, page 7.

The services for which this medal was given was the series of tests carried out under the direction of Major Walter Reed, M.D., U.S. Army Medical Corps into the cause(s) of, transmission of, and prevention of yellow fever. These experiments were undertaken after the Spanish-American War in Cuba in 1900 and 1901. The Walter Reed commission determined by its test that yellow fever was not transmitted by contact with those persons and their clothing, etc. who had contracted the disease. It was spread by a type of mosquito. As a result of these findings the United States was able to construct the Panama Canal without the prohibitive cost of workmen's lives from yellow fever, a factor which had resulted in the failure of earlier attempts to build such a canal, by destroying the mosquitoes that bore the disease. Thus, the work of Major Reed and his associates was not only of long range benefit and importance to mankind in ending one of the scourages, but also was of immediate benefit to the United States in establishing itself as a major world power. It should be noted that Major Reed did not live to see many of the fruits of his work as he died of appendicitis on November 22,1902 in Washington, D.C.

The men listed in the 1929 and 1956 acts of Congress directed or took part in the experiments. Most of the men were subjects or human guinea pigs who, among other things, lived in the clothing and slept in the beds of victims who had died of yellow fever, were put near towels stained with the blood of such victims, and were bitten by the mosquitoes known or suspected of carrying the disease. It can be seen that these men had a great deal of fortitude and courage in facing a disease that was often fatal and of unknown cause.

The medal provided for by Congress is a 63 mm diameter circular table medal of gold. This writer recently came across what might be described as a wearable miniature of this Congressional medal, paralleling...
RIBBON BANK

RIBBON BANK REGULATIONS

When writing for ribbons please mention OMSA membership number, as only members in good standing are eligible to purchase from the Ribbon Bank. A stamped and self-addressed envelope must accompany all orders and/or requests for information. Additional postage must be included for all large or heavy orders of ribbon. Payments on all orders should be in dollars or change, however postage stamps from the U.S. will be accepted for the small orders. Payments from Canada and other foreign countries should take into consideration their currencies are exchanged at a discount and this should be offset by additional monies.

For a numbering system we have selected the book RIBBONS & MEDALS by Taprell Dorling as this publication is the most readily available and read. However, as many countries have not been listed, we have established an additional numbering system with an "O" prefix for ordering purposes. Numbers O through O199 have been assigned to new and additional types of U.S. ribbons while numbers from O200 will be assigned for all other foreign additions, corrections and additions will be issued as other supplies of ribbons are procured.

Prices for all U.S. standard ribbons will be at 5¢ an inch, while all foreign standard ribbons will be 10¢ an inch unless otherwise noted. Cravats and sashes will only be ordered on a prepaid order and in general only countries as listed herein at this time could be procured.

UNITED STATES

01. Red White & Blue ribbon
02. Bailey Medal
03. Specially Meritorious Medal
258. Distinguished Service Cross (Army)
260. Navy Cross
261. Distinguished Service Medal (Army)
262. Distinguished Service Medal (Navy)
263. Silver Star
264. Legion of Merit
265. Distinguished Flying Cross
266. Soldiers Medal
267. Navy & Marine Corps Medal
268. Bronze Star
04. Air Force Commendation
A269. Navy Commendation
B269. Coast Guard Commendation
270. Army Commendation
271. Air Medal
272. Purple Heart
273. Medal for Merit
05. Medal for Freedom
276. Gold Life Saving Medal (2nd ribbon)
277. Silver Life Saving Medal (2nd ribbon)
278. Army Good Conduct
279. Navy Good Conduct
280. Marine Corps Good Conduct
281. Coast Guard Good Conduct (2nd ribbon)
282. Naval Reserve Medal
283. Marine Corps Reserve Medal
06. Naval Reserve Special Commendation ribbon

UNITED STATES

284. Civil War (2nd ribbon)
285. Indian War (2nd ribbon)
286. Dewey Medal
287. West Indies Naval Campaign
288. Spanish Campaign (2nd ribbon)
289. Philippine Campaign (1st ribbon)
289. Philippine Campaign (2nd ribbon)
290. China Relief Expedition (2nd ribbon)
291. Spanish War Service
292. Philippine Congressional Medal
293. Army of Cuban Occupation
294. Army of Puerto Rican Occupation
295. Cuban Pacificification Medal
296. Nicaraguan Campaign
297. Mexican Service Medal
298. Mexican Border Service Medal
299. Haitian Campaign Medal
300. Santo Domingo Campaign
112. Victory Medal WW I
301. 2nd Nicaraguan Campaign
302. N.C. 4 Medal
07. Peary Polar Expedition Medal
303. Byrd Antarctic Expedition
304. 2nd Byrd Antarctic Expedition
305. U.S. Antarctic Expedition 1939-41
306. Yangtze Service
307. China Service
308. Navy Expeditionary Medal
309. Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal
310. Army of Occupation WW I (1st ribbon)
310. Army of Occupation WW I (2nd ribbon)