

John Canley is one of the most decorated US Marines and the first living African-American Marine to receive the Medal of Honor in US history. He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps on November 30th 1953 and graduated recruit training at MCRD San Diego. Upon graduation, he attended Infantry Training School at Camp Pendleton, California. After completion of his training, he was sent to Camp Fuji, Japan and also to South Korea. John was then moved back to California and awaited orders to become a Drill Instructor, but before he could fulfil his orders he submitted his letter to be sent to Vietnam. His awards for valor include two Purple Hearts, a Bronze Star, Navy Cross and the Medal of Honor.

John Canley, (Sergeant Major United State Marine Corps), led 147 mud Marines into Hue City Vietnam on January 31, 1968. Awaiting them were 10,000 NVA regulars. His actions are a testament to American leadership and valor. Canley is the recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor for his actions at Hue City.