

# Vietnam War

We joked and ridiculed these medals and ribbons. We called them "gedunk medals," and in the photographs I retain ... only the career types were wearing the ribbons on their daily uniforms.

**A Vietnam-era Naval officer  
quoted in Joel Best's Everyone's a Winner**

---

**"Gedunk" is naval slang for a ship's store that sells cigarettes, candy, toiletries, etc.**