

# history of the military challenge coin

**\*\*The Fascinating History of the Military Challenge Coin\*\***

**history of the military challenge coin** is a captivating story that intertwines tradition, camaraderie, and symbolism within the armed forces. These small, often circular tokens have become iconic emblems of honor, belonging, and recognition among military personnel. But where did this intriguing custom originate, and how did challenge coins evolve into the cherished artifacts they are today? Let's embark on a journey through time to explore the origins, evolution, and significance of military challenge coins.

## The Origins of the Military Challenge Coin

The roots of the military challenge coin are somewhat shrouded in legend and mystery, but most historians agree that the tradition dates back to World War I. One of the most popular stories attributes the coin's origin to an American pilot serving in the European theater. According to the tale, this pilot carried a custom-made coin, a token of his squadron, which he gave to his comrades as a symbol of their shared bond.

During a harrowing mission, the pilot was captured by enemy forces but managed to escape. To prove his identity to French allies and avoid being executed as a spy, he presented the coin, which bore his unit's insignia. This coin saved his life, and from then on, the practice of carrying these tokens spread through military ranks.

## Early Military Traditions Inspiring the Coin

Challenge coins didn't emerge from thin air; they were influenced by earlier military and chivalric customs involving tokens and badges. For centuries, warriors and knights used medallions and insignias to identify themselves, signal allegiance, or commemorate achievements. These early symbols set the stage for the challenge coin's later development.

## The Evolution and Spread of Challenge Coins

After World War I, the tradition of challenge coins gradually gained momentum. Different military branches and units started designing their own coins, often handcrafted and personalized. The coins became a way to foster esprit de corps, celebrate milestones, and recognize acts of valor or service.

## World War II and the Expansion of the Tradition

During World War II, challenge coins saw widespread adoption. They were especially popular among bomber crews and special forces, who used the coins as a form of identification and morale booster. The coins often featured intricate designs that included squadron emblems, aircraft, mottos, and dates.

This period also saw the emergence of the "challenge" aspect, where service members could challenge each other to produce their coins. Failure to do so might result in a lighthearted penalty, such as buying a round of drinks. This practice helped solidify the coin's role in building camaraderie and esprit de corps.

## **Post-War and Modern Usage**

In the decades following World War II, challenge coins became a staple across all branches of the U.S. military and even extended to allied forces worldwide. The designs grew more elaborate, incorporating new materials, colors, and finishes. Commanding officers began awarding coins for exceptional service, leadership, or participation in special missions.

Today, challenge coins go beyond the military. Police forces, fire departments, government agencies, and even civilian organizations have adopted the tradition, recognizing the coin's power as a symbol of identity and achievement.

## **The Significance Behind the Challenge Coin**

The challenge coin is more than just a decorative item; it carries deep symbolic meaning. It represents pride, unity, and trust among those who serve. For many, receiving a coin is a rite of passage, a tangible acknowledgment of their commitment and contributions.

## **Understanding the "Challenge" Tradition**

The coin's name comes from the challenge game, where members of a unit or group can "challenge" others to produce their coins at any time. If someone cannot present their coin, they might face a humorous consequence, reinforcing the importance of carrying it at all times.

This tradition strengthens bonds and keeps the spirit of the unit alive, reminding service members of their shared experiences and responsibilities. It's a simple yet powerful ritual that turns the coin into a symbol of belonging.

## **Design Elements and Their Meanings**

Every detail on a challenge coin is purposeful. From the choice of symbols and mottos to the colors and shapes, coins often tell a story about the unit's heritage, values, and

mission. For example:

- **Unit Insignia:** Links the coin to a specific squadron or regiment.
- **Service Branch Symbols:** Such as eagles for the Air Force or anchors for the Navy.
- **Mottos:** Inspirational phrases that reflect the ethos of the group.
- **Dates and Locations:** Mark significant battles or deployments.

These elements not only personalize the coin but also serve as a visual history lesson for those who carry or receive them.

## Tips for Collecting and Caring for Military Challenge Coins

For enthusiasts and veterans alike, building a collection of challenge coins can be a rewarding hobby. Here are a few helpful tips to keep in mind:

- **Research Your Coins:** Understanding the background of each coin adds depth to your collection.
- **Proper Storage:** Use display cases or coin albums to protect coins from scratches and tarnish.
- **Networking:** Attend military reunions or trade shows to acquire rare or unique coins.
- **Respect the Tradition:** Remember that challenge coins represent real service and sacrifice.

By treating these coins with respect and care, collectors honor the legacy of those who earned them.

## The Challenge Coin in Popular Culture

The military challenge coin has transcended its original context, making its way into movies, TV shows, and even corporate culture. Films depicting military life often feature scenes where coins are exchanged or challenged, highlighting their significance. Additionally, some businesses create their own coins to foster team spirit and recognize

employee achievements, borrowing from military tradition to build a sense of unity.

This cultural crossover emphasizes how deeply ingrained challenge coins have become as symbols of trust, honor, and belonging.

Exploring the history of the military challenge coin reveals a rich tapestry of tradition and meaning. From their mysterious beginnings in World War I to their modern-day prominence as symbols of pride and camaraderie, these small tokens carry stories that resonate far beyond their size. Whether given in recognition, used in a friendly challenge, or collected as keepsakes, challenge coins continue to be cherished emblems of military heritage and brotherhood.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What is a military challenge coin?**

A military challenge coin is a small coin or medallion bearing an organization's insignia or emblem, carried by members of the military to symbolize unity and esprit de corps.

### **When and where did the tradition of military challenge coins originate?**

The tradition is believed to have originated during World War I, with one popular story attributing it to an American pilot who had bronze medallions made for his unit to prove his identity after being captured.

### **What was the original purpose of military challenge coins?**

Originally, challenge coins served as a means of identification and a token of camaraderie among military personnel, often used to verify membership in a unit or group.

### **How did challenge coins become a widespread tradition in the military?**

The tradition spread after stories of their use during World War I and II, with units adopting the practice to boost morale, recognize achievements, and strengthen bonds among members.

### **What does it mean to 'challenge' someone with a military coin?**

To 'challenge' someone means to present the coin and ask to see theirs; if the challenged person cannot produce their coin, they may be required to buy a round of drinks or face another lighthearted penalty, reinforcing camaraderie.

# How have military challenge coins evolved over time?

Military challenge coins have evolved from simple identification tokens to highly customized and collectible items, often commemorating specific units, missions, or achievements, and are now used by various organizations beyond the military.

## Additional Resources

The Enduring Legacy: A Deep Dive into the History of the Military Challenge Coin

**history of the military challenge coin** traces back to the early 20th century, embodying a tradition that merges military camaraderie, identity, and honor. These small, often circular tokens have evolved far beyond mere symbols; they represent stories of valor, unity, and recognition within armed forces worldwide. Understanding their origin and journey offers insight into military culture and the subtle yet powerful ways service members reinforce bonds and esprit de corps.

## Origins of the Military Challenge Coin

The precise origin of military challenge coins is somewhat shrouded in lore, with various narratives attributing their inception to different branches and eras. One of the most cited accounts dates to World War I, involving an American pilot stationed in France. According to this story, a wealthy lieutenant ordered custom bronze medallions for his unit to foster morale. After being shot down and captured by enemy forces, he escaped and was later identified as an ally thanks to the coin he carried, which reportedly saved his life.

While this tale encapsulates the practical and symbolic value of challenge coins, earlier examples suggest that units may have used similar tokens even before World War I. Some historians point to Roman times when coins or medallions were gifted to soldiers to signify allegiance or achievements. However, the modern tradition, particularly tied to the U.S. military, solidified during the First and Second World Wars.

## The Role of Challenge Coins During Wartime

During World War II, challenge coins became more widespread across American military units. They served a dual purpose: identification and morale boosting. Units customized coins with insignias, mottos, and unique designs to foster pride and unity within their ranks. These coins were often given to soldiers for exceptional service or as tokens of camaraderie among members.

Moreover, the practice of “challenging” with coins emerged during this period. Service members would present their coins in social settings, challenging others to produce theirs. Failure to do so often resulted in a lighthearted penalty, such as buying drinks, reinforcing group cohesion and friendly rivalry.

# **Evolution and Significance in Modern Military Culture**

Over the decades, the military challenge coin has transcended its initial battlefield function to become a cherished emblem within the armed forces. Today, nearly every branch of the U.S. military, as well as allied forces around the globe, incorporate challenge coins into their traditions and ceremonies.

## **Designs and Symbolism**

Contemporary challenge coins are highly detailed, often featuring unit insignias, mission mottos, rank emblems, and commemorations of specific operations or deployments. The artistry involved reflects pride in service and a tangible connection to the unit's heritage. Materials vary from bronze and brass to precious metals, with finishes ranging from antique patinas to vibrant enamels.

The craftsmanship and symbolism embedded in these coins elevate them from simple tokens to treasured keepsakes. They often serve as mementos of significant achievements, promotions, or retirements, solidifying their place in military culture.

## **Challenge Coin Traditions and Protocols**

The tradition of the challenge coin includes specific rituals that have been institutionalized over time. For example, a "coin check" may occur within a group where members present their coins; anyone unable to produce theirs must buy a round or face a lighthearted consequence. This practice reinforces accountability, pride, and belonging.

Additionally, commanders and high-ranking officials use challenge coins to recognize outstanding service or special contributions. Receiving a coin from a senior officer is considered a mark of honor and respect, often carrying more weight than formal awards due to the personal nature of the gesture.

## **Broader Cultural Impact and Civilian Adoption**

Beyond the military, challenge coins have found their way into law enforcement, fire departments, and even corporate settings. These organizations adopt the tradition to foster unity, recognize achievements, and build morale among members. The growing popularity in civilian contexts highlights the coin's versatility as a symbol of identity and accomplishment.

# Comparing Military and Civilian Challenge Coins

While military challenge coins are steeped in tradition and symbolism linked to service and sacrifice, civilian versions often emphasize branding, team spirit, or event commemoration. The designs may be more playful or promotional, but they borrow directly from the military's established formats.

- **Military Coins:** Emphasize unit pride, mission history, and recognition of service.
- **Civilian Coins:** Focus on organizational identity, milestones, and group cohesion.

Despite differences in context, both types share the underlying purpose of creating tangible connections among members.

## Challenges and Considerations in Collecting and Authenticity

As the popularity of challenge coins has surged, so too has the market for collectible and commemorative pieces. Authenticity becomes a significant concern, especially for coins purporting to represent elite units or historic events. Collectors, veterans, and military historians emphasize the importance of provenance and proper documentation.

## The Pros and Cons of Challenge Coin Collecting

- **Pros:** Preserves military history, fosters community among veterans, and honors service.
- **Cons:** Risk of counterfeit coins, potential commercialization diluting tradition, and challenges in verifying authenticity.

Collectors often rely on reputable dealers, official military sources, and veteran networks to ensure their coins' legitimacy.

## The Future of Military Challenge Coins

As technology advances, the design and distribution of challenge coins continue to evolve. Some units integrate digital elements like QR codes linking to unit histories or digital certificates. Others explore sustainable materials and innovative manufacturing

techniques.

Despite these innovations, the core values embodied by challenge coins—honor, camaraderie, and recognition—remain steadfast. They continue to serve as a bridge connecting generations of service members, linking past sacrifices with present duties and future aspirations.

The history of the military challenge coin reveals a unique facet of military culture, where a simple token carries profound meaning. From their murky origins to their modern-day significance, challenge coins encapsulate the spirit of service, the bonds forged in adversity, and the enduring pride of those who wear the uniform.

## **History Of The Military Challenge Coin**

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**history of the military challenge coin: The Soldier's Coin** NATHAN. POND, 2024-09-07 A poetic and historical narrative of military challenge coins collected by soldiers This book contains various poems and historical summaries of the military challenge coin, military culture, and traditions shared in the armed forces. Written to help honor a veteran's service, pay respect to those who gave it all, and help aid in transition back to home. Besides summaries of how the challenge coin has been used throughout history, this book also has sections for those who have died from war, military practices from bugle calls, and funeral and flag protocol. Coin sleeves NOT included

**history of the military challenge coin: Military Service** The New York Times Editorial Staff, 2018-12-15 The United States, as reflected in the news media, has a long history of either requiring or requesting citizens to be participants in the military. From the Civil War, through two world wars and the Vietnam War, to the conflicts in Afghanistan and the threat of terrorism, perspectives on military service, the draft, and citizen soldiers has changed. How has military service been portrayed through the news and perceived by the public throughout the country's history of wars and peacetimes? And how have the attitudes of American citizens changed when it comes to serving in the military? This collection of articles explores these questions and more, and also features Media Literacy Terms and Questions to further inform and guide readers.

**history of the military challenge coin: Air Force and Space Digest** , 2017

**history of the military challenge coin: Air Force Magazine** , 2017

**history of the military challenge coin: Elijah's Coin** Steve O'Brien, 2009 A work of didactic fiction somewhat in the mode of Mitch Albom's inspirational stories, this novel tells the story of a protagonist who suffers a tragic loss and is rapidly descending into a life of crime. One night, however, he has a fortuitous encounter with a mysterious night watchman, which sends him on a journey of self-discovery. A story about mentors and values, it confronts the reader with ethical questions and the possibility of self-transformation.

**history of the military challenge coin: Naval History** , 2017

**history of the military challenge coin: Running Out of Time (Color Interior)** Robert Prah, Jr., 2022-04-22 Running Out of Time: Chasing Red, White, and Blue (Color Interior) By: Robert Prah, Jr. Originally created for his daughter to detail his run for public office, Running Out of Time: Chasing Red, White, and Blue chronicles this pursuit by Robert Prah, Jr. during a very challenging time in a



district that has been historically “blue” forever. It details his personal story of running for the Pennsylvania state legislature and all of the challenges that he faced, especially from previous relationships and social media. It talks about being the “underdog” running against a lifelong Democrat-turned-Republican, where, according to many polls, Prah was favored to win the special election. The author also highlights how several committee members, past candidates and elected officials have changed their political affiliation in recent years. This story is interesting in the sense that Prah ran in three elections (Special Election in March 2020, Primary in June 2020, General in November 2020) all during a global pandemic. It shares the ups and downs of running for office and how the pandemic and social media impacted the outcome of many races in November 2020. The author hopes that readers take away that social media has had an impact on our lives, both positive and negative, and especially in politics and elections. We tend to not look at candidates individually, but rather as a “D” or an “R.” We need to do a better job of evaluating candidates and asking questions rather than what we see on social media.

**history of the military challenge coin: God, Country, Golf** Wesley Hobbs Bauguess, 2017-04-11 Growing up as a girl with a boy’s name, Wesley Hobbs was predestined to take the road less traveled. She spent her youth on the beautiful golf courses of Southwest Florida, and while her high school friends wanted to go to Florida colleges, she accepted a golf scholarship to Appalachian State University in the North Carolina mountains. In college, her friends wanted to date the Army ROTC boys, but she decided to join them. As an Army cadet, Wesley met a good, Christian, young man, Larry Bauguess, who stole her heart. They married during her senior year, and upon graduation, they entered the Army and served together as lieutenants and captains. They enjoyed a wonderful marriage for almost fourteen years and were blessed with two beautiful daughters. Tragedy struck in May 2007, when Larry was killed in action while serving overseas with the 82nd Airborne Division. Wesley and her daughters were at home at Fort Bragg when the notification team delivered the heartbreaking news. Wesley would learn that the lessons taught in church, the Army, and on the golf course would give her the strength to carry on. This is her story.

**history of the military challenge coin: Lords of Darkness** COL Billy R. Wood, 2011-08-18 Prior to 1979, you probably hadn’t heard of counterterrorism or Special Operations. Even so, special warriors have been around since Moses sent Joshua to spy out the land of Canaan. In 1986, Colonel Billy R. Wood served as the operations officer of the newly organized 45th Aviation Battalion (Special Operations). This unit was highly classified. The special operations training and missions carried out by the team were conducted in secret, and members couldn’t even tell their wives and families where they were going. These soldiers were called the Lords of Darkness. Prior to its formation, much was written about the failed hostage rescue mission in Iran. The Pentagon leadership implied, Whatever the costs, whatever we do, we can never have another Desert One. Secret exercises were conducted with modified aircraft and soon-to-be-skilled night flyers of Task Force 160, today known as Night Stalkers. What you didn’t read about was the other US Army Special Operations Aviation Battalionan Army National Guard unit. Highly classified and therefore less known, it was a mirror image special aviation unit. You didn’t realize they existed because you weren’t supposed to know. These teachers, businessmen, lawyers, salesman, citizen soldiers, and traditional guardsmen were called the Lords of Darkness of the Oklahoma Army National Guard. The night belonged to them and their hearts belonged to aviation.

**history of the military challenge coin: That Lonely Section of Hell** Lori Shenher, 2015-08-31 Former police detective Lorimer Shenher’s “inside account of the Pickton serial murders is both a horrifying and compelling read. —Peter Vronsky, author of Serial Killers: The Method and Madness of Monsters In this searing personal account, ex-police detective Lori Shenher (who transitioned to in 2015, and is now known as Lorimer) describes his role in Vancouver’s infamous Missing Women Investigation and unflinchingly reveals his years-long struggle with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder as a result of working on the case. From his first assignment, in 1998, to investigate an increase in the number of missing women to the harrowing 2002 interrogation of convicted serial killer Robert Pickton, Shenher tells a story of massive police failure—failure of the police to use the

information about Pickton available to them, failure to understand the dark world of drug addiction and sex work, and failure to save more women from their killer. That Lonely Section of Hell passionately pursues the deeper truths behind the causes of this tragedy and the myriad ways the system failed to protect vulnerable people.

**history of the military challenge coin: HowExpert Guide to Coin Collecting** HowExpert, If you're ready to collect rare coins, build your coin collection, and invest in numismatic treasures, HowExpert Guide to Coin Collecting is your ultimate resource. Whether you're a curious beginner or an experienced coin collector refining your strategies, this step-by-step guide offers the tools, techniques, and insights you need to thrive in the fascinating world of coin collecting. What You'll Learn Inside This Book: Introduction - Discover why coins matter, who this guide is for, and how to maximize your results. Chapter 1: The History of Coins and Numismatics - Explore the origins of coinage, minting techniques, and famous coins that shaped history. Chapter 2: Understanding Coin Collecting Basics - Master key terms, coin anatomy, and the different types of collectors. Chapter 3: Getting Started with Coin Collecting - Learn how to build your coin collection, gather tools, budget wisely, and find your first coins. Chapter 4: Identifying and Grading Coins - Understand grading scales, spot counterfeits, and assess coin condition and rarity. Chapter 5: Key Types of Coins for Collectors - Discover ancient, world, U.S., commemorative, and error coins to expand your collection. Chapter 6: Rare and Valuable Coins - Learn how to identify rare coins, recognize key dates, and track market trends. Chapter 7: Investing in Coins and Precious Metals - Develop short- and long-term investment strategies to grow wealth with coins. Chapter 8: Cleaning, Preserving, and Displaying Coins - Follow best practices to protect, store, and showcase your collection. Chapter 9: Buying Coins Safely and Smartly - Navigate auctions, dealers, and online markets while avoiding scams. Chapter 10: Selling and Trading Coins - Maximize profits, master auction strategies, and handle legal considerations. Chapter 11: Collecting Ancient and Medieval Coins - Study ancient civilizations, decode symbols, and uncover historical significance. Chapter 12: World Coins and International Numismatics - Explore global designs, foreign mints, and international sources. Chapter 13: U.S. Coins and Paper Currency Collecting - Learn about American coins, state quarters, and collectible paper money. Chapter 14: Tools and Resources for Coin Collectors - Use tools, databases, and networking to simplify collecting and valuation. Chapter 15: Creating a Legacy with Your Coin Collection - Preserve your collection as a family heirloom, investment, or educational tool. Conclusion - Reflect on your journey, explore the future of coin collecting, and stay inspired. Appendices - Find glossaries, mint directories, grading guides, templates, and resources to expand your expertise. Why You Need This Guide: Confidently Collect and Protect Coins: Learn to identify, grade, and safeguard coins while appreciating their unique history. Spot and Maximize Rare Finds: Discover strategies to uncover valuable coins, hidden gems, and opportunities to grow your collection. Streamline and Showcase Your Collection: Use tools and templates to organize, preserve, and display your coins effectively. Deepen Your Knowledge and Passion: Explore niche areas and stay inspired as you grow your expertise. Build a Coin Collection Rich in History, Beauty, and Value: Whether your fascination lies with ancient coins, modern designs, or rare treasures, this guide provides the tools, strategies, and knowledge to create a coin collection that's as rewarding as it is valuable. Get started today with HowExpert Guide to Coin Collecting and build a coin collection rich in history and value!

**history of the military challenge coin: The Inventor** Ronnie Lee Graham, 2016-02-23 The Inventor tells the story of four entangled lives: the Average Joe, the General, the Mistress, and the General's wife. Each unknowingly plays a role in the struggle of good against evil. They go about their lives, making decisions of their own free will while a larger chess match plays out in the background. Ultimately the choices they make—deciding to pursue an idea, selecting a book, choosing a repair shop, going for a walk, or even the split-second decision of fight or flight—impact the outcome. Do the good guys win? Perhaps, but are the good guys who you expect them to be? "In chess one cannot control everything. Sometimes a game takes an unexpected turn in which beauty begins to emerge." —Vladimir Kramnik, Russian chess grandmaster and undisputed World Chess

Champion from 2006–2007

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**history of the military challenge coin:** Podcasting as an Intimate Medium Alyn Euritt, 2022-11-18 This book delves into the notion of intimacy as a defining feature of podcasting, examining the concept of intimacy itself and how the public sphere explores the relationships created and maintained through podcasts. The book situates textual analysis of specific American podcasts within podcast criticism, monetization, and production advice. Through analysis of these sources' self-descriptions, the text builds a podcasting-specific framework for intimacy and uses that framework to interpret how podcasting imagines the connections it forms within communities. Instead of intimacy being inherent, the book argues that podcasting constructs intimacy and uses it to define the quality of its own mediation. This book will be of interest to scholars and students of New and Digital Media, Media Studies, Communication Studies, Journalism, Literature, Cultural Studies, and American Studies. The Open Access version of this book, available at [www.taylorfrancis.com](http://www.taylorfrancis.com), has been made available under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 license.

**history of the military challenge coin:** Grogan's Story CW03 MICHAEL GROGAN (RET.) UNITED STATES ARMY, 2022-03-22 Shortly after the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on our country, Reserve Coast Guard Investigative Service Special Agent Michael Grogan received active duty orders and became one of the Coast Guard's first ever sea marshals. Sea marshals were tasked with preventing terrorists from taking positive control of ships and running them into the Golden Gate Bridge, other vessels, a pier, or other target of opportunity. Grogan and his fellow sea marshals realized even crew members could be members of Al Qaeda or Al Qaeda supporters. The ships sea marshals protected consisted of oil tankers; container ships, cruise ships, and bulk carriers. These ships came from all around the world. Grogan transferred military branches and became an Army Criminal Investigation Division (CID) special agent serving in several active duty assignments to include Iraq; Afghanistan, and the Pentagon. After twenty-two years of military service, Grogan retired at the rank of Chief Warrant Officer 3. In his civilian life, at the age of nineteen, Grogan worked as a reserve police officer for the Los Gatos, California, Police Department. At the age of twenty, Grogan spent a thirty-year career with the Millbrae, California, Police Department and retired at the rank of Captain. While at the Millbrae Police Department, Grogan faced two of the greatest tragedies of his life; the murder of a close friend and fellow police officer and the drowning of an infant whom he drove to the hospital, but could not save.

**history of the military challenge coin:** Military Review , 2015

**history of the military challenge coin:** The Attributes Rich Diviney, 2021-01-26 Do you have what it takes to succeed in any situation? According to a retired commander who ran training for Navy SEALs, true optimal performance goes beyond just skill. It's all about THE ATTRIBUTES.

“Diviney’s incredible book explains why some people thrive—even when things get hard.”—Charles Duhigg, New York Times bestselling author of *The Power of Habit* During his twenty years as a Navy officer and SEAL, Rich Diviney was intimately involved in a specialized SEAL selection process, which whittled a group of hundreds of extraordinary candidates down to a handful of the most elite performers. Diviney was often surprised by which candidates washed out and which succeeded. Some could have all the right skills and still fail, while others he might have initially dismissed would prove to be top performers. The seemingly objective criteria weren’t telling him what he most needed to know: Who would succeed in one of the world’s toughest military assignments? It is similarly hard to predict success in the real world. It happens often enough that underdog students accomplish exceptional achievements while highly skilled, motivated employees fail to meet expectations. Dark-horse companies pull away from the pack while dream teams flush with talent and capital go under. In working with and selecting top special operators for decades, Diviney saw that beneath obvious skills are hidden drivers of performance, surprising core attributes—including cunning, adaptability, courage, even narcissism—that determine how resilient or perseverant we are, how situationally aware and how conscientious. These attributes explain how we perform as individuals and as part of a team. The same methodology that Diviney used in the military can be applied by anyone in their personal and professional lives, and understanding these attributes can allow readers and their teams to perform optimally, at any time, in any situation. Diviney defines the core attributes in fresh and practical ways and shares stories from the military, business, sports, relationships, and even parenting to show how understanding your own attributes and those of the people around you can create optimal performance in all areas of your life.

**history of the military challenge coin: Investing in Our Military Leaders** United States. Congress. House. Committee on Armed Services. Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee, 2010

**history of the military challenge coin: Vietnam Military Lore, 1959-1973** Ray A. Bows, 1988

**history of the military challenge coin: Professional Journal of the United States Army** , 2006

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