GENERAL ORDERS
No. 7

HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, D.C., *24 February 1966*

AWARD OF THE MEDAL OF HONOR

By direction of the President, under the Joint Resolution of Congress approved 12 July 1862 (amended by act of 3 March 1863, act of 9 July 1918 and act of 25 July 1963), the Medal of Honor for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty is awarded posthumously by the Department of the Army in the name of the Congress to:

Staff Sergeant *Larry S. Pierce*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his own life above and beyond the call of duty while leading a Squad against hostile forces near Ben Cat, Republic of Vietnam, on 20 September 1965. Sergeant *Pierce* was serving as squad leader in a reconnaissance platoon when his patrol was ambushed by hostile forces. Through his inspiring leadership and personal courage, the squad succeeded in eliminating an enemy machine gun and routing the opposing force. While pursuing the fleeing enemy, the squad came upon a dirt road and, as the main body of his men entered the road, Sergeant *Pierce* discovered an anti-personnel mine emplaced in the road bed. Realizing that the mine could destroy the majority of his squad, Sergeant *Pierce* saved the lives of his men at the sacrifice of his own by throwing himself directly onto the mine as it exploded. Through his indomitable courage, complete disregard for his own safety, and profound concern for his fellow soldiers, he averted loss of life and injury to the members of his squad. Sergeant *Pierce's* conspicuous gallantry, extraordinary heroism, and intrepidity at the cost of his own life, above and beyond the call of duty, are in the highest traditions of the United States Army and reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of his country.

GO 7

By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

HAROLD K. JOHNSON,
General, United States Army,
Chief of Staff.

Official:
J. C. LAMBERT,
Major General, United States Army,
The Adjutant General.

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