GENERAL ORDERS
No. 4

HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, D.C., *29 January 1968*

## 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 Congress to:

Captain *Joseph X. Grant*, O5321934, (then First Lieutenant), Infantry, United States Army. On 13 November 1966, Company A, 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry, was participating in a search and destroy operation when the leading platoon made contact with the enemy and a fierce firefight ensued. Captain (then First Lieutenant) *Grant* was ordered to disengage the two remaining platoons and to maneuver them to envelop and destroy the enemy. After beginning their movement, the platoons encountered intense enemy automatic weapons and mortar fire from the front and flank. Captain *Grant* was ordered to deploy the platoons in a defensive position. As this action was underway, the enemy attacked, using "human wave" assaults, in an attempt to literally overwhelm Captain *Grant's* force. In a magnificent display of courage and leadership, Captain *Grant* moved under intense fire along the hastily formed defensive line repositioning soldiers to fill gaps created by the mounting casualties and inspiring and directing the efforts of his men to successfully repel the determined enemy onslaught. Seeing a platoon leader wounded, Captain *Grant* hastened to his aid, in the face of the mass of fires of the entire enemy force, and moved him to a more secure position. During this action, Captain *Grant* was wounded in the shoulder. Refusing medical treatment, he returned to the forward part of the perimeter, where he continued to lead and to inspire his men by his own indomitable example. While attempting to evacuate a wounded soldier, he was pinned down by fire from an enemy machinegun. With a supply of hand grenades, he crawled forward under a withering hail of fire and knocked out the machinegun, killing the crew, after which he moved the wounded man to safety. Learning that several other wounded men were pinned down by enemy fire forward of his position, Captain *Grant* disregarded his painful wound and led five men across the fireswept open ground to effect a rescue. Following return of the wounded men to the perimeter, a concentration of mortar fire landed in their midst and Captain *Grant* was killed instantly. His heroic actions saved the lives of a number of his comrades and enabled the task force to repulse the vicious assaults and defeat the enemy. Captain *Grant's* actions reflect great credit upon himself and were in keeping with the finest traditions of the United States Army.

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By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

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

Official:
KENNETH G. WICKHAM,
*Major General, United States Army,*
*The Adjutant General.*

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