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GENERAL ORDERS
No. 38

HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, DC, *13 June 1969*

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 by the Department of the Army in the name of Congress to:

Chief Warrant Officer *Frederick E. Ferguson*, [redacted] United States Army, who distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity while serving with Company C, 227th Aviation Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) at Hue, South Vietnam. On 31 January 1968, Chief Warrant Officer *Ferguson*, commander of a resupply helicopter, monitoring an emergency call from wounded passengers and crewmen of a downed helicopter under heavy attack within the enemy-controlled city of Hue, unhesitatingly volunteered to attempt evacuation. Despite warnings for all aircraft to stay clear of the area due to heavy antiaircraft fire, Chief Warrant Officer *Ferguson* began a low-level flight at maximum airspeed along the Perfume River toward the tiny, isolated South Vietnamese Army compound in which the crash survivors had taken refuge. Coolly and skillfully maintaining his course in the face of intense, short range fire from enemy-occupied buildings and boats, he displayed superior flying skill and tenacity of purpose by landing his aircraft in an extremely confined area in a blinding dust cloud under heavy mortar and small arms fire. Although the helicopter was severely damaged by mortar fragments during the loading of the wounded, Chief Warrant Officer *Ferguson* disregarded the damage, and, taking off through the continuing hail of mortar fire, he flew his crippled aircraft on the return route through the rain of fire that he had experienced earlier and safely returned his wounded passengers to friendly control. Chief Warrant Officer *Ferguson*'s extraordinary gallantry, determination and intrepidity saved the lives of his comrades. His actions are in the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on himself and the United States Army. (This award supersedes the Silver Star (Second Oak Leaf Cluster) awarded to Chief Warrant Officer *Ferguson*, for gallantry in action on 31 January 1968, as announced in General Orders Number 2756, Headquarters 1st Air Cavalry Division, APO San Francisco 96490, dated 2 May 1968.)

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By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

W. C. WESTMORELAND,
General, United States Army,
Chief of Staff.

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

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