GENERAL ORDERS
No. 77

HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, DC, *4 December 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 posthumously by the Department of the Army in the name of Congress to:

Private First Class *Carlos J. Lozada*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty on 20 November 1967, in the battle of Dak To, Republic of Vietnam. While serving as a machine gunner with 1st Platoon, Company A, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 503d Infantry, 173d Airborne Brigade (Separate), Private *Lozada* was part of a four-man early warning outpost, located thirty-five meters from his company's lines. At 1400 hours a North Vietnamese Army company rapidly approached the outpost along a well-defined trail. Private *Lozada* alerted his comrades and commenced firing at the enemy who were within ten meters of the outpost. His heavy and accurate machinegun fire killed at least twenty North Vietnamese soldiers and completely disrupted their initial attack. Private *Lozada* remained in an exposed position and continued to pour deadly fire upon the enemy despite the urgent pleas of his comrades to withdraw. The enemy continued their assault, attempting to envelop the outpost. At the same time enemy forces launched a heavy attack on the forward west flank of Company A with the intent to cut them off from their battalion. Company A was given the order to withdraw. Private *Lozada* apparently realized that if he abandoned his position there would be nothing to hold back the surging North Vietnamese soldiers and that the entire company withdrawal would be jeopardized. He called for his comrades to move back and that he would stay and provide cover for them. He made this decision realizing that the enemy was converging on three sides of his position and only meters away, and a delay in withdrawal meant almost certain death. Private *Lozada* continued to deliver a heavy, accurate volume of suppressive fire against the enemy until he was mortally wounded. His actions not only inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy but saved the lives of many of his comrades, several of whom were seriously wounded and had to be carried during the withdrawal. His heroic deed served as an example and an inspiration to his comrades throughout the ensuing four-day battle. Private *Lozada*'s actions are in the highest traditions of the United States Army and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

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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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