GENERAL ORDERS
No. 78

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:

Corporal *Jerry W. Wickam*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity on 6 January 1968, while serving with Troop F, 2d Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment in the Republic of Vietnam. On this date, Troop F was conducting a reconnaissance-in-force mission southwest of Loc Ninh when the lead element of the friendly force was subjected to a heavy barrage of rocket, automatic weapons, and small arms fire from a well-concealed enemy bunker complex. Disregarding the intense fire, Corporal *Wickam* leaped from his armored vehicle, assaulted one of the enemy bunkers, and threw a grenade into it, killing two enemy soldiers. He moved into the bunker and, with the aid of another soldier, began to remove the body of one Viet Cong, when he detected the sound of an enemy grenade being charged. Corporal *Wickam* warned his comrade and physically pushed him away from the grenade, thus protecting him from the force of the blast. When a second Viet Cong bunker was discovered, he ran through a hail of enemy fire to deliver deadly fire into the bunker, killing one enemy soldier. He also captured one Viet Cong who later provided valuable information on enemy activity in the Loc Ninh area. After the patrol withdrew and an airstrike was conducted, Corporal *Wickam* led his men back to evaluate the success of the strike. They were immediately attacked again by enemy fire. Without hesitation, he charged the bunker from which the fire was being directed, enabling the remainder of his men to seek cover. He threw a grenade inside of the enemy's position, killing two Viet Cong and destroying the bunker. Moments later he was mortally wounded by enemy fire. Corporal *Wickam*'s conspicuous gallantry, extraordinary heroism and intrepidity at the cost of his own life were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself 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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