GENERAL ORDERS
No. 85

HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, DC, *15 December 1969*

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I—DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 25 July 1963, the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action is awarded posthumously to:

Sergeant *Daniel M. Noeldner*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism while serving as a senior medical aidman assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 35th Infantry, near Pleiku, Republic of Vietnam, on 6 March 1969. On that day Sergeant *Noeldner* was serving with Company D, 2d Battalion, when it was ambushed by a force of the North Vietnamese Army. Several men in the point element were hit by the initial volley of fire and the cry for "Medic" was heard. Completely disregarding the intensity of the enemy attack and his own safety, Sergeant *Noeldner* rushed forward to the side of his wounded comrades. While treating the first man that he reached, he was wounded in the thigh. Refusing medical treatment for himself, he continued to assist the wounded while repeatedly exposing himself to the fire of the enemy force. Shortly thereafter he was again hit by enemy rounds while assisting his fellow soldiers. While attempting to bandage himself to stop the profuse bleeding another medic came to his aid, but Sergeant *Noeldner* directed him to check the other injured men. Although the crippling effect of his wounds prevented him from continuing his gallant mission, Sergeant *Noeldner* had significantly contributed to saving the lives of two men at the sacrifice of his own. His extraordinary heroism at the cost of his own life, above and beyond the call of duty, was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army and reflects great credit upon him and the Armed Forces of his country.

II—SILVER STAR. **1.** By direction of the President, under provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918, a Silver Star for gallantry in action is awarded to:

Captain *William D. Besselieu, Jr.*, , Field Artillery, United States Army, who distinguished himself by gallantry in action on 24–27 June 1969 while serving as an advisor to an allied artillery battalion during operations against a hostile force in Southeast Asia. On 24 June 1969 the allied position at which Captain *Besselieu* was located came under attack by three North Vietnamese battalions. After 16 hours of enemy shellings and assaults, Captain *Besselieu* volunteered to remain with the position during the night. His control of friendly artillery and close air support was instrumental in the successful defense of 24 June. Throughout that night and during the next three days

Captain *Besselieu* exposed himself to enemy mortar and small arms fire in order to direct the friendly fires and evacuate wounded. On 27 June, when the evacuation of the position was ordered, Captain *Besselieu* assisted in organizing the movement to minimize friendly casualties. In frequently exposing himself to hostile fire he moved from place to place exploiting the evacuation. His actions were instrumental in holding down friendly casualties during the withdrawal and contributed to preventing the loss of more than the one helicopter lost in action. Captain *Besselieu*'s calm and determined aggressive actions to stop the enemy attack, and his valorous action in conducting an orderly withdrawal when further defense became impossible, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon him, his organization, and the United States Army.

2. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918, a Silver Star for gallantry in action is awarded to:

Major *Peter R. Coggins*, , (then Captain) Signal Corps, United States Army, who distinguished himself by gallantry in action at An Lao, Republic of Vietnam, on 7 December 1964. On this date, Major *Coggins* landed his helicopter near the outpost of An Lao under a withering hail of fire and sustained several hits. Major *Coggins* succeeded in getting his helicopter airborne and persevered by returning and landing again, this time within the outpost. Major *Coggins* then took command of a critical situation in which the South Vietnamese soldiers at the outpost of An Lao were in a state of panic and disorganization. After controlling the ground situation, Major *Coggins* was successful in taking aboard eleven seriously wounded South Vietnamese soldiers, and only after mortar rounds and extremely heavy small arms fire from the battalion-sized North Vietnamese force which threatened to jeopardize the completion of the mission did Major *Coggins* leave the outpost. He flew a heavily damaged helicopter through poor weather and visibility safely back to the base camp at Qui Nhon, Republic of Vietnam. The gallantry in action rendered by Major *Coggins* is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon him and the United States Army.

3. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918, a Silver Star for Gallantry in action is awarded to:

Brigadier General *Nguyen Thanh Hoang*, Army of the Republic of Vietnam, who distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 27 March 1969 while commanding the 7th Army of the Republic of Vietnam Infantry Division on a combat operation in Dinh Tuong Province. When his 11th Infantry Regiment came into heavy contact with two well-entrenched enemy battalions, General *Hoang* left his command post and flew over the embattled area to evaluate the situation. Disregarding his own safety, General *Hoang* directed his helicopter at dangerously low altitudes over the hostile forces and accurately located their positions. He then directed his Regimental Commander to employ the armored cavalry unit at the enemy's flank and, when the Regimental Commander's aircraft was forced to land, personally assumed command of the friendly forces. Inspired by the presence of their Commanding General, the Army of the Republic of Vietnam soldiers rallied to overrun the enemy positions, decimating the hostile forces and capturing numerous individual and crew-served weapons. General *Hoang's* extraordinary heroism in close combat with an armed hostile force is in keeping with the highest tradi-

tions of the military service and reflects great credit upon him, the 7th Army of the Republic of Vietnam Division and the Army of the Republic of Vietnam.

4. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918, a Silver Star for gallantry in action is awarded to:

Lieutenant Colonel *Thomas H. McMullen*, , United States Air Force, who distinguished himself by gallantry while participating in aerial flight as the Air Liaison Officer for the 25th Infantry Division on 28 May 1967. At approximately 0930 hours on that date Colonel *McMullen* took off from Cu Chi, Republic of Vietnam, in an unarmed 0–1 aircraft to direct a close-air-support mission. After proceeding to the target area near the Oriental River he immediately set out to completely identify the heavily defended enemy positions set to attack advancing friendly forces. After describing and locating the positions for the ground commander and describing the target to the fighter pilots he rolled into a marking pass. He was immediately subjected to intense hostile ground fire. The fighter aircraft delivered their ordnance accurately and halfway through the strike Colonel *McMullen* decided to adjust the area of the target in order to silence other gun positions and strike other targets posing a threat to friendly ground forces. He completely disregarded his own personal safety and dove his aircraft through the intense fire to mark the target with a smoke rocket. As he was pulling out of the dive, his aircraft received several hits from the hostile fire. One of the rounds penetrated the floor of the cockpit and ripped into Colonel *McMullen*'s thigh, where it came to rest. He undauntedly chose to continue the mission, ignoring his injury and the damage to the aircraft. On his next rocket pass, Colonel *McMullen* fired a rocket directly into one of the Viet Cong gun positions, enabling the lead fighter to unload his ordnance without danger on his next delivery pass. Colonel *McMullen* continued to direct the attacks with such skill and daring that all the ordnance was dropped precisely on the enemy positions, silencing the ground fire and inflicting certain destruction of the enemy. Colonel *McMullen*'s aggressiveness under fire and his calm courage was an impressive source of inspiration to the fighter pilots, and he undoubtedly motivated them to accurately press the attacks in the face of the intense ground fire. By his gallantry and devotion to duty, Colonel *McMullen* has reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Armed Forces.

5. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918, a Silver Star for gallantry in action is awarded to:

Sergeant First Class *Gary E. Nystrom*, (then Sergeant), United States Army, who distinguished himself by gallantry in action on 16 June 1966. A United States observation aircraft was shot down near Dak To, Republic of Vietnam. An Air Force rescue team was driven from the crash site by 12.7 mm and other automatic fire. Fully aware of the extreme danger involved, Sergeant *Nystrom* volunteered to join a three-man group attempting to reach the crew via a makeshift one hundred-twenty-foot rope ladder which was to be suspended from a helicopter and protected by United States Army and United States Air Force tactical aircraft. Even when intense fire drove them once from the site, Sergeant *Nystrom* insisted on being the first man down the ladder when their helicopter could return. Drawing fire while on the ladder, he calmly returned the fire and continued. Reaching the ground he chose not to seek the nearby cover but remained standing in the only open area and stabilized the twisting ladder for the others. Sergeant *Nystrom* took charge of the inexpe-

rienced men within the small group and formed a "roving perimeter" around the crash. When they were attacked by an enemy force of unknown size, Sergeant *Nystrom*'s accurate firepower figured heavily in driving the enemy back with several known dead. After securing the bodies of the crew he then volunteered to remain on the ground with the officer in charge and cover the two weaker Americans as they attempted escape via the ladder. When the officer with him was wounded during another attack, Sergeant *Nystrom* again aided greatly in beating back the North Vietnamese with more losses. He then insisted on the wounded man preceding him up the ladder to safety while he followed and provided as much covering fire as possible from the swinging ladder. Twice more during this climb he returned the fire of the enemy. Sergeant *Nystrom*'s numerous and selfless acts of valor, the constant offering of his life to help insure the safety of his fellow soldiers, his professionalism and extreme calmness under direct and accurate hostile automatic fire and his insistence upon taking the most dangerous part of all missions reflect the highest credit upon himself, the corps of noncommissioned officers, the United States Special Forces, and the United States Army.

6. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918, a Silver Star for gallantry in action is awarded to:

Specialist Four *Richard S. Willis*, , (then Private First Class), United States Army, who distinguished himself by gallantry in action against an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 5 February 1968 while serving as a gunner on a military aircraft with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2d Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division. On the morning of 5 February 1968, after having one OH–13 aircraft shot down, Specialist *Willis* volunteered to aid in the mission of scout support for elements of the 2d Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division. While en route to a contact area, the scout team, of which Specialist *Willis* was a part, was engaged by a battalion-size enemy force about two miles southwest of Landing Zone Uplift. The OH–13 aircraft in which Specialist *Willis* was riding was hit numerous times by heavy and light automatic weapons fire, which caused it to crash and burn about 50 meters in front of the hostile force. Specialist *Willis* sustained multiple bullet wounds while the pilot of the aircraft sustained multiple back injuries and was knocked unconscious. The aircraft crashed in such a position as to place the pilot on the side that was exposed to the enemy fire. With complete disregard for his own safety, Specialist *Willis* exited the burning aircraft and made his way around the aircraft to the injured pilot, thus exposing himself to the enemy fire. He pulled the unconscious pilot from the burning aircraft and carried him to safety before collapsing unconscious from his own bullet wounds. Specialist *Willis*' personal heroism, professional competence, and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon him and the United States Army.

7. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918, a Silver Star (First Oak Leaf Cluster) for gallantry in action is awarded to:

Captain *Otis H. Ashley III*, , (then First Lieutenant), Infantry, United States Army, who distinguished himself by gallantry in action on 16 June 1966 near Dak To, Republic of Vietnam, while serving as Executive Officer, Detachment A–245, 5th Special Forces Group. A plane was shot down and the rescuers were driven away by fire. Hearing the crew might still be alive,

he and a three-man team left by helicopter, taking only ammunition and signal panels. At the site, supported by gunships and United States Air Force fighters, the ship was forced away by fire. Captain *Ashley* elected to continue despite a heavy rain now falling. At the site again, he and a noncommissioned officer descended a one hundred-twenty-foot rope ladder. Drawing fire while suspended, he returned it and continued through the one hundred-foot-high trees. Upon landing, he sent the NCO into the brush for cover but remained exposed to fire while stabilizing the ladder for the other men. With all four men down, he moved to the crash, removed the bodies and destroyed the plane. When the unit was then attacked, he allowed the enemy to walk within five meters of him before firing, killing two and routing the force. The slightest movement drawing fire, he inched to the dead, took their weapons and papers, and crawled the entire perimeter telling his men the situation and laying escape plans. Realizing he could not hold the position or make the upcoming climb without being killed, and already being probed by fire, Captain *Ashley* walked to the clearing and for twenty minutes displayed signals to planes which put in four airstrikes, forcing the enemy back. Signaling for a pickup, he remained on the ground protecting the helicopter and the climbing men. In this period he came under fire twice. Wounded in the foot by the first exchange, he still pushed the enemy back. Refusing to leave the bodies, weapons, and documents, Captain *Ashley* crawled to the wreckage, secured all items, dragged them to the clearing and attached them to a lowered cable. Ignoring his wound, which required he use only one foot, he began the exhausting climb. Captain *Ashley* was forced to return the enemy's fire twice while en route to the helicopter. Captain *Ashley*'s stamina and decision under fire allowed his unit an accomplishment of great magnitude with minimum casualties. Captain *Ashley*'s continued offering of his life to preserve those of other Americans was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army and reflects great credit upon him and the military service.

III—LEGION OF MERIT. **1.** By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 20 July 1942 and Executive Order 10600, 15 March 1953, the Legion of Merit (Degree of Commander) for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service is awarded to:

General *Manual T. Yan*, , Armed Forces of the Philippines. April 1967 to July 1969.

2. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 20 July 1942 and Executive Order 10600, 15 March 1953, the Legion of Merit (Degree of Officer) for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service is awarded to:

Major General *Lee Bong Chul*, , Republic of Korea Marine Corps. April 1967 to December 1968.

Brigadier General *Jorge Dansey*, Argentine Army. January 1967 to January 1969.

Brigadier General *Wilhelm Fahlbusch*, , German Air Force. October 1967 to September 1969.

General *Michael M. L. Fourquet*, French Army. March 1968 to November 1969.

Colonel *Iskander Ghanem*, Lebanese Army. July 1966 to July 1967.

Major General *Lew Byung Hion*, , Republic of Korea Army. October 1967 to July 1968.

Lieutenant General *Chalard Hirunsiri*, , Royal Thai Army. July 1968 to July 1969.

Brigadier General *Nguyen Thanh Hoang*, Army of the Republic of Vietnam. August 1967 to March 1969.

Lieutenant General *Kim Tu Man*, , Republic of Korea Air Force. July 1968 to December 1968.

General *Yamada Masao*, Japanese Army. March 1968 to September 1969.

Major General *Tran Thanh Phong*, Army of the Republic of Vietnam. November 1967 to March 1969.

Colonel *Sita Jacques Puati*, Congolese Army. February 1966 to August 1968.

Major General *Christian G. Schaeder*, , Army of the Federal Republic of Germany. October 1964 to September 1969.

Lieutenant Colonel *Robertson H. Smith*, , New Zealand Army. August 1966 to August 1968.

Brigadier General *Wilhelm F. H. Thomas*, , Infantry, Army of the Federal Republic of Germany. January 1966 through September 1969.

3. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 20 July 1942, and Executive Order 10600, 15 March 1953, the Legion of Merit (Degree of Legionnaire) for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service is awarded to:

Lieutenant Colonel *Lasse Laudal*, , Infantry, Norwegian Army. August 1963 to March 1969.

Colonel *Choi Min Soub*, , Infantry, Republic of Korea Army. September 1968 to December 1968.

Colonel *Kim Eung Sub*, , Infantry, Republic of Korea Army. December 1967 to November 1968.

IV--SOLDIER'S MEDAL. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded posthumously to:

Staff Sergeant *Cary C. Ward, Jr.*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism on 18 July 1967 in the Republic of Vietnam. On this date, Sergeant *Ward* was serving as advisor to a Vietnamese Strike Force unit that was conducting reconnaissance along the King Tong Doc Loc Canal for a proposed boat dock facility. Another American advisor was moving toward the water when he triggered a Viet Cong mine device and was thrown into the air by the blast, landing in the grass unconscious and seriously wounded. Despite the danger of triggering another mine and with full knowledge of the risk involved, Sergeant *Ward* moved unhesitatingly into the mined area and carried his teammate back to the camp dispensary. Sergeant *Ward* initiated immediate medical treatment to the soldier's wounds and then carried him to the medical evacuation helicopter when it arrived. Demonstrating courage, determination and devotion to duty of the highest order, Sergeant *Ward*, without hesitation, placed the life and safety of his fellow man above his own in carrying him from the minefield and immediately treating his wounds. Sergeant *Ward*'s actions are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army and reflect great credit upon him and the military service.

V__SOLDIER'S MEDAL. 1. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

First Sergeant *Felipe N. Blas*, (then Sergeant First Class) Infantry, United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism in his courageous efforts to aid a fellow soldier at the risk of his own life. During the early morning of 5 December 1963, Sergeant *Blas* received word that a shooting had occurred in the troop billets at Fort Riley, Kansas. He immediately rushed to the scene of the incident and was informed that two noncommissioned officers had been shot. The assailant was in the room with a wounded noncommissioned officer and was, presumably, still armed with at least five more rounds of ammunition. Shortly thereafter the military police arrived but were not equipped with tear gas to force the assailant from the room. Realizing that the wounded man might be bleeding to death while waiting for tear gas to arrive, Sergeant *Blas* and another noncommissioned officer devised a plan to subdue the assailant and rescue the wounded man. Although extremely dangerous, the plan of action was sound, and they were allowed to follow through with it. Arming themselves, they went through a window to a ledge that runs along the building. The plan called for them to move along this ledge, where they would be able to sight the assailant, although this would place them in a position where they could easily be fired upon by the mentally deranged noncommissioned officer. By this route, they entered the room through a window, and discovered the bodies of the assailant, who had shot himself, and the victim. Sergeant *Blas'* heroic actions were in the highest traditions of the military service, and reflect great credit upon him, the 1st Infantry Division, Fort Riley, and the United States Army.

2. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Staff Sergeant *Ernest A. Finklea*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by gallantry and intrepidity in an effort to save the lives of two of his fellow men on 10 July 1969. Sergeant *Finklea* was fishing at Thompson Lake, Fort Richardson, Alaska when a kayak carrying two men capsized on the lake. Sergeant *Finklea*, without hestitation, dove into the water, the temperature of which was 46 degrees Fahrenheit. Although his courage was indomitable and he demonstrated complete disregard for his own life, the panic of the two men cost them their own lives and almost resulted in the loss of Sergeant *Finklea*'s as well. When he reached the men they were in the clutches of fear and fighting for self-preservation. Neither listened to his pleas for them to relax, but both turned on him in desperation, dragging the sergeant down with them. Upon surfacing, Sergeant *Finklea* discovered one of the men was still underwater. Sergeant *Finklea* tried to recover him but was unable to do so. With waning strength, he turned his full efforts toward saving the remaining man. In the ensuing struggle, Sergeant *Finklea* collapsed due to extreme fatigue. Sergeant *Finklea* was helped from the water suffering from overexposure, excessive intake of water, and severe physical and traumatic shock. His extraordinary heroism, conspicious gallantry, and willingness to risk his life for that of his fellow man are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon him and the United States Army.

3. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is posthumously awarded to:

Captain *Louis J. Geneseo*, , Infantry, United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism on the 17th and 18th of April 1969, during an airborne infiltration into the White Mountains National Forest of New Hampshire, conducted in conjunction with a 10th Special Forces Group operational readiness test. Captain *Geneseo*, officer in charge of the drop zone, distinguished himself by saving the life of a fellow Special Forces soldier who was participating in the night parachute drop. The soldier landed away from the drop zone into the Israel River, swollen to near floodstage by heavy rains and melting snow. The paratrooper's cries of distress were heard by Captain *Geneseo* and his medic. Captain *Geneseo*, with complete disregard for his own life and safety, plunged into the torrential waters and was swept downstream by the extremely swift current. He reached the far bank and tied a rope around his waist. He again jumped into the raging current and proceeded upstream toward the paratrooper who was by this time hanging on to some exposed branches and debris. This time Captain *Geneseo* successfully reached the stranded paratrooper and, with the assistance of his medic, began cutting loose the entangled suspension lines of the parachute which was dragging him down into the icy water. With the assistance of several others on shore, Captain *Geneseo* and his medic successfully pulled the paratrooper to shore and safety. Captain *Geneseo*'s actions were in keeping with the finest traditions of the United States Army. His heroism and bravery reflect great credit upon him, his unit, Fort Devens and the United States Army.

4. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Private First Class *Raymond J. Halderman*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroic actions on 20 July 1969 while serving as a military policeman at Fort Wainwright, Alaska. During the afternoon of 20 July 1969 Private *Halderman* noticed a woman climbing up the embankment of the Chena River. Private *Halderman* left his patrol vehicle to investigate an apparent incident. He learned that a privately owned vehicle driven by the woman and containing a small child had left the roadway, skidded and overturned. The vehicle had entered the water upside down and was completely submerged in the river. Private *Halderman* immediately issued orders to his patrol partner to call for an ambulance and render aid to the dazed woman. He then ran down the jagged, rocky embankment, tearing his fatigue jacket from his body and dropping his pistol belt. Without regard for his own safety he entered the frigid waters of the Chena River and dove twice below the surface of the water, attempting to locate the vehicle and the four-year-old child that was trapped within. On his second dive he forced himself into the vehicle and successfully brought the unconscious child to the riverbank. Mouth-to-mouth resuscitation was immediately applied by Private *Halderman* and was instrumental in saving the child's life. The personal courage and resolution of purpose demonstrated by Private *Halderman* indicate that he placed the life of another individual above his own. Private *Halderman*'s actions are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon him, his unit, and the United States Army.

5. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Staff Sergeant *Thomas W. Harris, Jr.*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism on 6 May 1969. On that date, Sergeant *Harris* voluntarily, unarmed, and at great personal risk, disarmed and subdued an emotionally disturbed soldier who was armed with a loaded .45 pistol. The soldier had endangered a number of nearby soldiers by his actions and had just kidnapped another soldier for a period of time. Sergeant *Harris'* highly commendable actions while unarmed, acting without specific orders and in the face of repeated threats to his own life, removed a dangerous threat to the safety of innocent soldiers in the vicinity as well as to the armed man himself. In the process, Sergeant *Harris* displayed remarkable judgment, an exceptional presence of mind while under extreme pressure, and exemplary professionalism far beyond the normal requirements of his duties, thereby reflecting great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

6. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Captain *Gerard J. Lehoux*, , Medical Service Corps, United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism on 11 August 1968 as he voluntarily risked his life in order to save the lives of two human beings. While fishing after duty hours at Lake Ontario, New York, Captain *Lehoux* rescued two male civilians who were drowning. This act was performed voluntarily and at the risk of his own life due to the rough, rock-filled waters through which he navigated in order to perform the rescue. Captain *Lehoux's* act of valor bears signal credit upon him, the United States Army and the military establishment.

7. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Specialist Four *James K. Lummis*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism on 27 May 1969 at Autobahnsee, West Germany. Without regard for personal safety, Specialist *Lummis* promptly answered a call for help from his comrades who noticed that a fellow soldier was in trouble approximately thirty yards from shore. Specialist *Lummis* swam to the spot where the man was last seen and dove to a depth of ten to twelve feet. Specialist *Lummis* dragged the limp soldier back to the surface and began reviving him immediately. With the assistance of other comrades the victim was taken to shore and revived a few minutes after first aid was administered. The immediate action of Specialist *Lummis* saved the life of his comrade and has earned for him the highest respect of his supervisors and associates. It reflects great credit upon him, the United States Army, and the military service.

8. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Major *Andrew S. Marino*, , Quartermaster Corps, United States Army, who distinguished himself by a voluntary act of heroism in that he saved the life of a six-year-old child at the risk of his own. About 10 a.m. on 30 May 1969, during a torrential rainfall, Major *Marino*, who was inside his

quarters at Fort Clayton, Canal Zone, was alerted by the screaming of children from outside. Looking out of the window he saw two children peering into a rain drain that runs underground across the street from Major *Marino*'s quarters. Without hesitation he ran outside and discovered that a third boy, who had been playing with the other two near the drainage ditch, had fallen in and had been washed by the rapid current of water into a culvert where he had become wedged. Major *Marino*, with the help of a neighbor, removed a manhole cover over the underground pipe and heard cries for help coming from about 15 yards upstream. He quickly located two lines, tied one around his waist, and, carrying the other, entered the ditch. The force of the water immediately knocked him off his feet, but he regained his footing and let the water carry him into the drain where he saw that the child was hanging perilously onto a pipe, trying to keep his head above the swollen water. While attempting to place the boy onto his back, he dropped the spare rope which entangled itself around his arms and neck. Attempting to free himself from the rope, the child slipped away from his arms and was carried deeper into the pipe by the turbulent water. Major *Marino* again rushed after the child and this time was able to safely secure him and pull him to safety. Major *Marino*'s intuitive reaction to the peril of the boy, at the risk of his own life, was in the highest tradition of the military service and reflects great credit upon him and the United States Army.

9. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Lieutenant Colonel *Roy L. Miller*, , Infantry, United States Army, United States Army Aviation Test Board, Fort Rucker, Alabama, who distinguished himself bv heroism while rescuing two seriously injured and unconscious crewmembers from the wreckage of their burning aircraft on 13 February 1969. Colonel *Miller* was observing a YCH–47C helicopter hovering at a remote test site near Apalachicola, Florida, when the pilot lost control of the aircraft. It somersaulted over on its back and exploded into flames, trapping the unconscious pilot and the aircraft commander in the cockpit. Despite numerous explosions and with complete disregard for his own personal safety, Colonel *Miller* rushed to the burning helicopter and crawled under the nose section to remove debris and seat cushions to remove the pilot. Then assisted by a fellow officer, he rescued the aircraft commander from the exploding and burning wreckage and moved him to safety. Colonel *Miller* voluntarily risked his life to save the lives of others. His actions reflect great credit upon him, the United States Army Aviation Test Board, and the military service.

10. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Specialist Five *William J. Schultz*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism on 13 February 1969 while with a work detail on Sand Island, a remote test site near Apalachicola, Florida. Specialist *Schultz* was observing a YCH–47C helicopter conducting sling loading operations, when the pilot lost control of the aircraft. It somersaulted over on its back and immediately exploded into flames trapping the unconscious pilot and the aircraft commander in the cockpit. With disregard for his own safety, Specialist *Schultz* rushed to the burning wreckage and attempted to break out the front

windscreen. Although only partially successful, his actions substantially facilitated the other rescue personnel in getting the injured crewmen from the helocopter. Specialist *Schultz'* valiant efforts and voluntary risk of his own life to attempt to save the life of another reflect great credit upon him, the United States Army Aviation Test Board, and the military service.

11. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Lieutenant Colonel *Adalbert E. Toepel, Jr.*, , Field Artillery, United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism while rescuing a seriously injured aircraft commander from the wreckage of his burning helicopter on 13 February 1969. Colonel *Toepel* was en route to Sand Island, a remote test site near Apalachicola, Florida, by helicopter when he saw a YCH-47C helicopter crash and explode into flames. Landing his helicopter, he rushed to the burning aircraft. Completely disregarding his own personal safety, Colonel *Toepel* crawled under the nose section of the burning helicopter and through a broken lower window to raise the heavy, armored seat. This enabled the semiconscious aircraft commander to untangle his legs from the controls and slide down through the lower window. Then assisted by a fellow officer, Colonel *Toepel* removed the aircraft commander from the burning wreckage to the awaiting evacuation helicopter. Colonel *Toepel's* act of heroism is in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army. He voluntarily risked his life so that another may live. His actions reflect great credit upon him and the United States Army.

12. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Lieutenant Colonel *Edward M. Willis*, , Corps of Engineers, United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism on 10 April 1969 at Bradley Landing, Fort Benning, Georgia. At approximately 1415 hours on 10 April 1969, Colonel *Willis*, while observing a river-crossing rehearsal exercise, responded in an heroic manner to an accident in which an armored personnel carrier (APC) sank to the bottom of the Chattahoochee River with two persons aboard. Colonel *Willis*, with utter disregard for his own personal safety or protection, risked his life in the swift current and ice-cold water of the river in an attempt to free the two men trapped inside the APC. Even through Colonel *Willis* knew that the doors of the APC would be next-to-impossible to open underwater due to their weight and the surrounding water pressure, he was not deterred in the least. Again and again, Colonel *Willis*, fighting against the strong undercurrents of the river and the near-zero visibility in the muddy water, attempted to free the trapped men, surfacing only long enough to breathe. His act of heroism in this emergency situation was truly outstanding and beyond the call of duty. Colonel *Willis'* heroism and genuine concern for the lives of his comrades reflect great credit upon him, his unit, and the United States Army.

VI—BRONZE STAR MEDAL. **1.** By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 9419, 4 February 1944, a Bronze Star Medal with V-Device for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against hostile forces is awarded to:

Staff Sergeant *Ino B. Gass*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism in connection with military operations against a

hostile force on 17 August 1944, while serving with Reconnaissance Company, 32d Armored Regiment, 3d Armored Division in Europe. During a unit move in the vicinity of Ranes, France, Sergeant *Gass'* unit was hit by enemy tank fire. The first concentration of enemy fire seriously wounded a lieutenant and struck the officer's jeep. A vehicle caught fire, illuminating the entire field, and further endangered the helpless lieutenant. Although the enemy range seemed centered in the vicinity of the officer's position and vehicles on the edge of the field were temporarily safer, Sergeant *Gass*, at great personal risk, voluntarily left the safety of his own vehicle and made his way, under a withering hail of fire, to move the officer out of the heat of the burning vehicle and administer first aid. While he was doing so he sustained from the shellfire a fractured left arm, a broken collarbone, scalp lacerations, a punctured wrist and multiple wounds under the arm. Another shellburst killed the lieutenant and wounded a major, the regimental surgeon. Sergeant *Gass'* gallantry and heroism, both an example and an inspiration to the other members of the organization, demonstrate courageous self-sacrifice in unhesitatingly rushing to the assistance of a superior who had fallen into a perilous situation. Sergeant *Gass'* bravery, aggressiveness, and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon him and the United States Army.

2. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 11046, 24 August 1962, a Bronze Star Medal with V-Device for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against hostile forces is awarded to:

Staff Sergeant *David L. Pompili*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism on 24–27 June 1969 while serving as an advisor to an allied artillery battalion during operations against a hostile force in Southeast Asia. On 24 June 1969, the allied position at which Sergeant *Pompili* was stationed was attacked by three North Vietnamese battalions. On 25 July 1969, after two days of continuous enemy shellings and assaults, Sergeant *Pompili* volunteered to remain overnight as the lone advisor to direct friendly close air support. Fully aware of the enemy tactics to utilize the hours of darkness, Sergeant *Pompili* braved continuous enemy shelling and small arms fire, thus inspiring the allied artillerymen, fighting as infantrymen, to continue to resist. On 27 June, after four days of increasing enemy efforts to capture his position, Sergeant *Pompili* assisted in the organization of the helicopter evacuation of the allied force. His actions contributed to minimizing friendly losses and insuring the destruction of military equipment that could not be evacuated. Sergeant *Pompili*'s valorous actions are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon him, his organization, and the United States Army.

3. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 11046, 24 August 1962, a Bronze Star Medal with V-Device for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against hostile forces is awarded to:

Specialist Four *Homer G. Stevenson*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism while engaged in military operations in Vietnam on 23 November 1966. Serving as a radio operator for an advisor accompanying a Regional Force rifle company, Specialist *Stevenson* displayed courage and military acumen far above that normally possessed by individuals of like grade and experience. During the operation, units came into contact with a reinforced Viet Cong main force company. After the company advisor

was mortally wounded, Specialist *Stevenson* temporarily assumed the functions of directing armed helicopter strikes upon enemy positions. Disregarding heavy enemy fire delivered from positions 75 meters away Specialist *Stevenson* guided in, then helped carry the stricken company advisor to, the command-and-control helicopter. Specialist *Stevenson* then remained with the replacement company advisor during the remainder of the operation, continually maintaining radio communications with the command element although frequently under heavy hostile fire while advancing through waist-deep mud and water. His exemplary courage and devotion to duty contributed significantly to the successful attack on a fortified position. Specialist *Stevenson*'s conspicuous gallantry is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon him, the United States Military Assistance Command Vietnam, and the United States Army.

4. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 11046, 24 August 1962, a Bronze Star Medal with V-Device for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against hostile forces is awarded to:

Captain *Harold L. Watts*, , Signal Corps, United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force on 18 November 1967 while serving as Civil Government Officer (counterinsurgency), during a Viet Cong terrorist raid on the city of Nha Trang, Republic of Vietnam. Captain *Watts* displayed great personal courage and professionalism when he anticipated a Viet Cong ambush and attempted to locate and disarm a hidden Viet Cong antipersonnel mine. At approximately 2000 hours, 18 November 1967, the Viet Cong terrorists detonated an explosive charge at a crowded bus stop. Captain *Watts*, who was in the immediate area, rushed to the scene. After examining the cratered area and its surroundings, he determined that it was a small charge of explosives, and that it was an ambush for United States forces personnel who were patrons of a United States forces noncommissioned officer's club, located directly across the street from the blast area. He immediately instructed the military policemen who had begun to arrive to cordon off the surrounding area, remove the wounded and to keep all United States forces and Vietnamese personnel indoors and away from the blast area. Then with complete disregard for his own personal safety, he again crossed the street to attempt to locate and disarm the second demolition device he had determined to be in the area of the initial detonation. While making this search, the Viet Cong terrorists, who could see from their concealed position that their ambush had failed, detonated the second device, a Claymore-type antipersonnel mine, from which only Captain *Watts* sustained serious wounds. Disregarding the wounds inflicted upon him, Captain *Watts* continued to direct the military policemen in apprehending the terrorists. After the successful completion of the action, Captain *Watts* refused to be evacuated for medical attention until all other personnel who had been killed or injured in the initial blast were cared for and evacuated. At this time Captain *Watts*, though severely wounded, chose to be evacuated in a combat vehicle rather than have the already overburdened medical personnel return and evacuate him in an ambulance. Captain *Watts*' actions during and after the terrrorist raid, his completely accurate and most timely decisions which prevented many unnecessary deaths and injuries, and his high regard for the well-being of his fellow man bring the highest credit upon him and the United States Army.

5. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 11046, 24 August 1962, a Bronze Star Medal with V-Device (Second Oak Leaf Cluster) for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against hostile forces is awarded to:

Lieutenant Colonel *Charles T. Stevens*, (then Major), Infantry, United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism while engaged in military operations in Vietnam on 29 October 1966. Shortly after the battle commenced, the Regional Force platoon that Colonel *Stevens* was advising was repulsed by a resolute, well-entrenched foe. Colonel *Stevens*, fearing that the Regional Force battalion might be driven from the field, reorganized and personally led elements of two Regional Force companies forward through fire-swept terrain to establish a base of fire close to the Viet Cong main line of resistance. Later, after Colonel *Stevens* returned to the battalion command element, the command post and forward base of fire was hit with enfilading fire from Viet Cong troops that had infiltrated between stalled left-flank company and the forward units. Realizing the gravity of the situation, Colonel *Stevens* again rose to the occasion by rallying a platoon and leading it in an assault which threw back the infiltrating enemy. Throughout the action he ranged between the forward base and the command post, exhorting and inspiring the leaderless troops to remain at the task. Colonel *Stevens* constantly exposed himself to enemy fire without regard to the consequences in order to observe enemy positions, organize and lead troops, position weapons, or direct airstrikes. Throughout the day he rallied the RVN troops at every opportunity inspiring them to greater lengths by his own heroic example. Colonel *Stevens'* conspicuous gallantry is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon him, the United States Military Assistance Command Vietnam and the United States Army.

6. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 11046, 24 August 1962, a Bronze Star Medal with V-Device (Third Oak Leaf Cluster) for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against hostile forces is awarded to:

Lieutenant Colonel *Charles T. Stevens*, , (then Major), Infantry, United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism on 18 May 1967, while serving as an advisor with elements of the 431st Regional Force Rifle Company, Army of the Republic of Vietnam. On this date, a squad accompanying Colonel *Stevens* came into contact with one Viet Cong squad. After determining the impossibility of attacking through swamp mud and across tidal-swollen streams, Colonel *Stevens* deployed the Regional Force unit where suppressive fire could be placed upon the foe. With fortitude and determination, Colonel *Stevens* single-handedly assaulted the enemy's position, which necessitated moving through mud and streams while completely exposed to heavy hostile fire. His brave actions and personal example so inspired the Vietnamese that, under his tutelage, they subsequently initiated a series of successful small-unit operations which lent great impetus to the pacification effort. Colonel *Stevens'* heroic actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army and reflect great credit upon him and the military service.

VII_BRONZE STAR MEDAL. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 11046, 24 August 1962, a Bronze Star Medal for

meritorious service in connection with military operations against hostile forces is awarded to:

Colonel *Le Van Than*, , Artillery, Army of the Republic of Vietnam. March 1968 to March 1969.

Colonel *Pham Ngoc Thiep*, , Army of the Republic of Vietnam. March 1965 to September 1969.

VIII--ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL. **1.** By direction of the Secretary of the Army, under the provisions of paragraph 33, AR 672–5–1, the Army Commendation Medal with V-Device for heroism is awarded to:

Staff Sergeant *James C. Fox*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism against a hostile enemy while serving as Chief of Section, Battery A, 1st Battalion, 8th Artillery, 25th Infantry Division, in the Republic of Vietnam on 27 April 1966. While supporting the 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry, near Bao Trai, Republic of Vietnam, Sergeant *Fox*'s battery was struck by a devastatingly accurate Viet Cong mortar attack. So unexpected and violent was the assault that three United States soldiers were seriously wounded in the initial barrage. Before the enemy rounds stopped falling, Sergeant *Fox* led his men from the relative safety of their personnel bunker, reorganized his section, and began answering the enemy with a deadly barrage of high explosive ammunition. Sergeant *Fox*'s cool professional leadership under fire materially assisted in silencing the enemy force and greatly inspired the men in his command. His actions are in keeping with the highest traditons of the military service and reflect great credit upon him, the 25th Infantry Division, and the United States Army.

2. By direction of the Secretary of the Army, under the provisions of paragraph 33, AR 672–5–1, the Army Commendation Medal (Third Oak Leaf Cluster) with V-Device for heroism is awarded to:

Lieutenant Colonel *Charles T. Stevens*, , (then Major), Infantry, United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism on 20 May 1967 while serving as an advisor with a platoon from the 431st Regional Force Rifle Company, Army of the Republic of Vietnam. On this date, Colonel *Stevens*, accompanied by one National Policeman, encountered a Viet Cong element, later determined to be of squad size, that had escaped detection by the advancing Regional Force platoon. Displaying great fortitude and determination, Colonel *Stevens*, with the Vietnamese Policeman attacked an enemy force of unknown size and captured three armed Viet Cong, which negated the possibility of the passing Regional Force platoon being caught between the fires of the split enemy force. His selfless conduct and personal example so inspired the Vietnamese unit, that on their own initiative they conducted repetitive operations in the area with resultant erosion of Viet Cong influence. Colonel *Stevens*' heroic actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army and reflect great credit upon him and the military service.

IX--ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL. By direction of the Secretary of the Army, under the provisions of paragraph 33, AR 672–5–1, the Army Commendation Medal for meritorious service is awarded to:

Lieutenant Colonel *Paul H. Sachse*, , Federal Republic of Germany Army. June 1962 to April 1969.

Major *Tran Van Si*, , Army of the Republic of Vietnam. March 1968 to January 1969.

X--MEDAL OF HONOR. 1. So much of Department of the Army General Orders Number 53, dated 8 August 1969, pertaining to the posthumous award of the Medal of Honor to Private First Class *Leslie A. Bellrichard*, , United States Army, as reads "in Kontum Province, Republic of Vietnam," is amended to read "in Pleiku Province, Republic of Vietnam."

2. So much of Department of the Army General Orders Number 62, dated 27 October 1969, pertaining to award of the Medal of Honor to Major *Patrick H. Brady*, 535-30-4962, Medical Service Corps, United States Army, is amended to include "(This award supersedes award of the Distinguished Service Cross to Major *Brady* for extraordinary heroism displayed on 6 January 1968, as announced in General Orders Number 75, Headquarters, United States Army Vietnam, dated 8 January 1969.)"

3. So much of Department of the Army General Orders Number 51, dated 8 August 1969, pertaining to the posthumous award of the Medal of Honor to Staff Sergeant *Frankie Z. Molnar*, , United States Army, as reads "in Kontum Province, Republic of Vietnam," is amended to read "in Pleiku Province, Republic of Vietnam."

4. So much of Department of the Army General Orders Number 64, dated 27 October 1969, pertaining to award of the Medal of Honor to Captain *James M. Sprayberry*, (then First Lieutenant), Armor, United States Army, is amended to include "(This award supersedes award of the Silver Star to Captain *Sprayberry* for gallantry in action on 25 April 1968, as announced in General Orders Number 4575, Headquarters, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), dated 11 June 1968.)"

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.

Distribution:
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U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1969