GENERAL ORDERS
No. 11

HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, DC, *23 April 1970*

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 *Michael J. Crescenz*, [redacted], United States Army, who distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action on 20 November 1968 while serving as a rifleman with Company A, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry, 196th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division in the Hiep Duc Valley area of the Republic of Vietnam. On this morning his unit engaged a large, well-entrenched force of the North Vietnamese Army whose initial burst of fire pinned down the lead squad and killed the two point men, halting the advance of Company A. Immediately, Corporal *Crescenz* left the relative safety of his own position, seized a nearby machinegun and, with complete disregard for his own safety, charged 100 meters up a slope toward the enemy's bunkers which he effectively silenced, killing the two occupants of each. Undaunted by the withering machinegun fire around him, Corporal *Crescenz* courageously moved forward toward a third bunker which he also succeeded in silencing, killing two more of the enemy and momentarily clearing the route of advance for his comrades. Suddenly, intense machinegun fire erupted from an unseen, camouflaged bunker. Realizing the danger to his fellow soldiers, Corporal *Crescenz* disregarded the barrage of hostile fire directed at him and daringly advanced toward the position. Assaulting with his machinegun, Corporal *Crescenz* was within 5 meters of the bunker when he was mortally wounded by the fire from the enemy machinegun. As a direct result of his heroic actions, his company was able to maneuver freely with minimal danger and to complete its mission, defeating the enemy. Corporal *Crescenz*'s conspicuous gallantry and extraordinary heroism at the cost of his own life above and beyond the call of duty are in the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on him, 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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