GENERAL ORDERS
No. 16

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:

Specialist Four *Edward A. DeVore, Jr.*, [redacted], United States Army, who distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on the afternoon of 17 March 1968, while serving as a machinegunner with Company B, 4th Battalion, 39th Infantry, 9th Infantry Division, on a reconnaissance-in-force mission approximately 5 kilometers south of Saigon, Republic of Vietnam. Specialist *DeVore*'s platoon, the company's lead element, abruptly came under intense fire from automatic weapons, claymore mines, rockets, and grenades from well-concealed bunkers in a nipa palm swamp. One man was killed and three wounded about 20 meters from the bunker complex. Specialist *DeVore* raced through a hail of fire to provide a base of fire with his machinegun, enabling the point element to move the wounded back to friendly lines. After supporting artillery, gunships, and airstrikes had been employed on the enemy positions, a squad was sent forward to retrieve their fallen comrade. Intense enemy frontal and enfilading automatic weapons fire pinned down this element in the kill zone. With complete disregard for his own personal safety, Specialist *DeVore* assaulted the enemy positions. Hit in the shoulder and knocked down about 35 meters short of his objective, Specialist *DeVore*, ignoring his pain and the warnings of his fellow soldiers, jumped to his feet and continued his assault under intense hostile fire. Although mortally wounded during this advance, he continued to place highly accurate suppressive fire upon the entrenched insurgents. By drawing the enemy fire upon himself, Specialist *DeVore* enabled the trapped squad to rejoin the platoon in safety. Specialist *DeVore*'s extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty in close combat were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon him, the 39th Infantry and the United States Army. (This award supersedes the award of the Silver Star to Specialist *DeVore* for gallantry in action on 17 March 1968 as announced in General Orders Number 2543, Headquarters, 9th Infantry Division, APO 96370, dated 19 April 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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