GENERAL ORDERS
No. 6

HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, DC, 9 March 1971

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:

First Lieutenant *Robert L. Poxon*, , Armor, Troop B, 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division, who distinguished himself on 2 June 1969 while serving as a platoon leader on a reconnaissance mission in Tay Ninh Province, Republic of Vietnam. Landing by helicopter in an area suspected of being occupied by the enemy, the platoon came under intense fire from enemy soldiers in concealed positions and fortifications around the landing zone. A soldier fell, hit by the first burst of fire. Lieutenant *Poxon* dashed to his aid, drawing the majority of the enemy fire as he crossed 20 meters of open ground. The fallen soldier was beyond help and Lieutenant *Poxon* was seriously and painfully wounded. Lieutenant *Poxon*, with indomitable courage, refused medical aid and evacuation and turned his attention to seizing the initative from the enemy. With sure instinct he marked a central enemy bunker as the key to success. Quickly instructing his men to concentrate their fire on the bunker, and in spite of his wound, Lieutenant *Poxon* crawled toward the bunker, readied a hand grenade and charged. He was hit again but continued his assault. After succeeding in silencing the enemy guns in the bunker he was struck once again by enemy fire and fell, mortally wounded. Lieutenant *Poxon*'s comrades followed their leader, pressed the attack and drove the enemy from their positions. First Lieutenant *Poxon*'s gallantry, indomitable will and courage are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

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:
To be distributed in accordance with DA Form 12–4 requirements.