GENERAL ORDERS

No. 15

HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, DC, 30 March 1972

	Section
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS—Award	I
SILVER STAR—Award	II
SILVER STAR—Award	III
SILVER STAR—Award	IV
SILVER STAR—Award	V
LEGION OF MERIT—Award	VI
LEGION OF MERIT—Award	VII
LEGION OF MERIT—Awards	VIII
SOLDIER'S MEDAL—Awards	IX
BRONZE STAR MEDAL—Award	X
BRONZE STAR MEDAL—Award	XI
ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL—Awards	XII
ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL—Award	XIII
SILVER STAR—GO 31, 1971, amended	XIV
BRONZE STAR MEDAL—GO 1, 1971, amended	XV

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 to:

Lieutenant Colonel (then Major) *Kenneth D. Ferguson*, Infantry, [redacted], United States Army, who distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism on 31 January 1968 during the Viet Cong "Tet" assault on Tra Vinh, the capital of Vinh Binh Province, where he was serving as advisor to the Provisional Reconnaissance Unit and Revolutionary Development Cadres. Immediately after the initial enemy assault, Colonel *Ferguson* moved through the streets under hostile fire with another American officer to search for wounded personnel. Seven wounded persons were recovered and transported to the hospital. On returning to his compound, he was informed that fifty to sixty Viet Cong had captured and occupied the Province Chief's compound. Colonel *Ferguson*, armed with an M-79 grenade launcher, moved quickly to the Provincial compound with three other Americans and four Vietnamese soldiers, providing protective covering fire and resupplying ammunition. For almost 2 hours, under intense hostile machinegun and rocket fire, Colonel *Ferguson* maneuvered from one position to another and fired grenades through windows of the various buildings of the Provincial compound that were occupied by Viet Cong until he was seriously wounded. His aggressiveness, tenacity, and decisive leadership resulted in the enemy being driven from the compound. Colonel *Ferguson*'s extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflected great credit on him and the United States Army.

II. SILVER STAR. 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 posthumously to:

Sergeant *Daniel G. Casey*, [redacted], United States Army, who distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous action on 28 July 1969 while serving as a squad leader with Company C, 2d Battalion, 502d Infantry, 101st Airborne Division during a reconnaissance-in-force mission in an area approximately 20 miles southeast of Phu Bai, Republic of Vietnam. While walking point for his company, his unit was attacked by an enemy force. During the

13 APR 1972

engagement he eliminated several of the enemy with hand grenades. He then assaulted another enemy position. He threw a hand grenade that struck a tree limb and fell short of its intended mark. Realizing that the hand grenade was dangerously close to his comrades, he moved forward under fire, retrieved the hand grenade, and attempted to throw it again. The hand grenade exploded and he was mortally wounded. Sergeant *Casey*'s heroism in combat against an armed hostile force was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflected great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army.

III—SILVER STAR. 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 posthumously to:

Sergeant *David I. Mixter*, [redacted], United States Army, Special Operations Augmentation, Command and Control Detachment Central, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces, who distinguished himself by gallantry in action on 29 January 1971, while serving as a member of a joint American/Vietnamese reconnaissance team on a mission deep in enemy-controlled territory. After being inserted on 29 January, the team moved from the landing zone and into dense jungle. The team had stopped for a security break when Sergeant *Mixter* detected enemy movement nearby. He readied himself for combat and alerted his team members to danger. Soon the lead element of a force estimated to be two squads of enemy soldiers came into view, and Sergeant *Mixter* fired on them. The enemy returned fire with rockets, small arms, and automatic weapons. Realizing they were greatly outnumbered, the team began to withdraw while Sergeant *Mixter* remained in his position to deliver covering fire. By his holding the enemy at bay, his fellow soldiers were able to escape the deadly trap. When Sergeant *Mixter* attempted to rejoin his team, a B-40 rocket landed directly in front of him, wounding him seriously. The remainder of the team was forced to withdraw from the area by the overwhelming enemy fire power and was safely extracted an hour later. Sergeant *Mixter*'s selfless actions gave them the precious seconds they needed to reach safety. Sergeant *Mixter*'s gallantry and self-sacrifice were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflected great credit on him and the United States Army.

IV—SILVER STAR. 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 posthumously to:

Sergeant First Class *Ronald E. Smith*, [redacted], United States Army, Special Forces Operations Augmentation, Command and Control Detachment Central, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces, who distinguished himself by heroism while serving as a member of a long-range reconnaissance team on a mission deep in enemy-controlled territory on 28 November 1970 in the Republic of Vietnam. Immediately upon landing, the team received enemy small arms fire. Sergeant *Smith* engaged the enemy troops and called for air support to enable the team to break contact and move from the area. The team then moved down a large enemy trail, stopping three times to place anti-personnel mines. After two and one-half hours, the first mine exploded; followed by the second, and then the third. The team then came under attack by a large enemy force. Disregarding his personal safety, Sergeant *Smith*

again called for air support while exposed to the enemy fire. The team detonated Claymore mines and succeeded in eliminating several of the enemy. Shortly thereafter, the relentless enemy began a second assault. Sergeant *Smith* moved to a completely unprotected position in an attempt to mark the enemy targets. He was struck by enemy fire and fell to the ground. The team leader attempted to reach Sergeant *Smith* but was driven back by the enemy fire. Air support arrived and delivered airstrikes on the enemy, enabling the team to break contact. Sergeant First Class *Smith*'s gallantry and self-sacrifice were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military and reflected credit on him, his unit and the United States Army.

V—SILVER STAR. 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 *Derald R. Bunnell*, [redacted], United States Army, who distinguished himself by acts of heroism on 7 and 8 October 1968 while serving as Senior Medical Corpsman, Detachment B-55, 5th Mobile Strike Force Command, 5th Special Forces Group, 1st Special Forces, in the Republic of Vietnam. While on a reconnaissance-in-force mission, on 7 October, the 5th Mobile Strike Force made contact with a large, well-entrenched enemy force. With complete disregard for his personal safety, Sergeant *Bunnell* led a small force through a hail of small arms and automatic weapons fire in order to establish flank security. As tactical air strikes and artillery fire pounded the enemy positions, Sergeant *Bunnell* moved throughout the battle area, treating wounded and encouraging his comrades. When tactical air strikes and artillery fire ceased, his unit again advanced against the enemy positions. Heavy, accurate, enemy mortar, small-arms, and automatic weapons fire forced his unit to withdraw to a secure position to evacuate the wounded. During the early morning hours of 8 October, Sergeant *Bunnell*'s unit was again subjected to intense enemy rocket and mortar fire, accompanied by a 3-pronged ground attack. After two platoons of his unit were overrun, Sergeant *Bunnell* gathered stragglers, redistributed ammunition, and led his men as they fought to escape the enemy encirclement. Sergeant First Class *Bunnell*'s courage and leadership were in keeping with the most cherished traditions of the military service and reflected great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army.

VI—LEGION OF MERIT. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 20 July 1942, and Executive Order 10600, 15 March 1955, the Legion of Merit (Degree of Commander), for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service is awarded to:

Lieutenant General *Albert Schnez*, [redacted] Army of the Federal Republic of Germany, October 1968 to September 1971.

VII—LEGION OF MERIT. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 20 July 1942, and Executive Order 10600, 15 March 1955, the Legion of Merit (Degree of Officer) (Second Award) for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service is awarded to:

Major General *Choe Due Myong*, [redacted] Republic of Korea Army. April 1969 to December 1970.

VIII. LEGION OF MERIT. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 20 July 1942, and Executive Order 10600, 15 March 1955, the Legion of Merit (Degree of Officer) for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service is awarded to:

Rear Admiral *Kim Dong Bae*, [redacted], Republic of Korea Navy, January 1969 to June 1969.

Brigadier General *Carlos Braga Chagas*, Brazilian Army. January 1969 to July 1970.

Brigadier General *Tran Ba Di*, [redacted], Army of the Republic of Vietnam. July 1968 to July 1970.

Brigadier General *Tran Van Hai*, [redacted], Army of the Republic of Vietnam. June 1968 to November 1970.

Special Colonel *Suwich Kanjananta*, [redacted], Royal Thai Army. July 1969 to July 1970.

Major General *Arne Gunnar Lund*, Norwegian Army. October 1968 to February 1971.

Lieutenant General *Hu Shing*, Army of the Republic of China. October 1965 to March 1971.

Brigadier General *Kang Yeung Sik*, [redacted], Republic of Korea Army. February 1970 to November 1970.

Special Colonel *Yukontorn Singhaphan*, Royal Thai Army. June 1951 to February 1971.

Brigadier General *Park Noh Young*, [redacted], Republic of Korea Army. November 1969 to February 1971.

IX. 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:

Sergeant *David L. Anderson*, [redacted], United States Army, who distinguished himself by an act of heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Landstuhl, Germany on 12 August 1970. On that date Sergeant *Anderson* responded to a call for help in a housing area where a 12-year old boy had climbed a tower and came in contact with high-voltage, electric power lines. Sergeant *Anderson*, with complete disregard for his own safety, climbed the tower with another noncommissioned officer to reach the boy. The two men reached through a wire guard and lifted the boy, who had fallen across a wire line and was being severely burned and electrocuted. They held the boy off the electric wires for 25 minutes until the voltage was turned off. They then carried him down from the tower to a waiting ambulance. The boy's arm had to be amputated; but, his life was saved. Sergeant *Anderson*'s heroic and selfless action was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

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:

Specialist Four *Pauline A. Atwood*, [redacted], United States Army who distinguished herself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Fort Ritchie, Maryland, on 16 August 1971. At approximately 0030 hours, Specialist

Atwood observed a woman struggling in the waters of Upper Lake Royer, Fort Ritchie, about 30 yards from shore. The woman had apparently jumped into the lake in an effort to take her own life. With complete disregard for her personal safety, Specialist *Atwood* swam to the aid of the stricken woman. With only the dim light of several distant street lights to guide her, she located the woman, overcame her hysterical actions and towed her to shore. Although nearly submerged on several occasions by the struggling woman, she tenaciously continued to swim and safely reached the shore. With the aid of a bystander, the young woman was subdued until Military Police arrived on the scene. By her courageous action, humanitarian regard for her fellow man, and dedication of service to her country Specialist Four *Atwood* has reflected great credit on herself 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 awarded to:

Sergeant First Class *Dewey C. Johnson*, [redacted], United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life while serving at Seale, Alabama on 30 December 1970. Learning that a nearby service station owner was being assaulted and robbed by two men, Sergeant *Johnson* immediately went to his assistance. At the risk of life, with no thought for his personal safety, Sergeant *Johnson* drove off one of the assailants and then entered the service station and disarmed the other man whom he held at gunpoint until police arrived. Sergeant *Johnson*'s actions saved the service station owner from possible injury or death and materially aided local police. By his courageous action and humanitarian regard for his fellow man, in the dedication of service to his country, Sergeant First Class *Johnson* has reflected great credit on himself 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:

Staff Sergeant *Joseph A. LeBlanc*, [redacted], United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Bad Herfeld, Germany on 22 December 1970. On that date a fire ignited on the third floor of Building 8100 in the dependent housing area of McPheeters Barracks, Bad Herfeld, Germany. The intense heat and smoke trapped a woman and her children in their apartment. Sergeant *LeBlanc* gained access to the fourth floor by climbing the stairwell in the adjacent apartment. Finding the back door jammed by the intense heat, Sergeant *LeBlanc* climbed through a window, and cautiously attempted to negotiate the steep, snow- and ice-encrusted roof to reach the apartment. The wrought-ironwork bordering the slippery roof gave way under his weight, and he prudently sought assistance. A line was secured to the apartment window. By means of the line Sergeant *LeBlanc* and another individual were able to assist the trapped family in leaving the apartment and crossing the roof to safety. By his courageous action and humanitarian regard for his fellow man, in the dedication of service to his country, Staff Sergeant *LeBlanc* has reflected great credit on himself and the United States Army. (This award superseded the Army Commendation Medal award to Sergeant *LeBlanc* in General Orders 273, Headquarters 4th Armored Division, 1970.)

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:

Specialist Four *Harold V. Wiggins, Jr.*, [redacted] United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Hampton, Virginia on 26 June 1971. On that date Specialist *Wiggins* came upon the scene of an accident at the entrance to Gosnold Hope Park on the Old Back River Road, Hampton, Virginia. A vehicle had careened off the road and collided with a utility pole, overturning and catching fire. With total disregard for his safety, Specialist *Wiggins* rushed into the flames and freed a woman who was pinned in the burning automobile. Had it not been for this selfless act, the woman would have perished in the flames. By his courageous action and humanitarian regard for his fellow man, in the dedication of service to his country, Specialist Four *Wiggins*, has reflected great credit on himself and the United States Army.

X. BRONZE STAR MEDAL. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 11046, 24 August 1962, a Bronze Star Medal (Second Oak Leaf Cluster) with "V" device for heroism in connection with military operations against hostile forces is awarded (posthumously) to:

Sergeant Major *Donald F. West*, [redacted] (then Master Sergeant), United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism in connection with ground operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam, 30–31 January 1968, while serving with a volunteer provisional task force charged with defense of the 651st Signal Compound, Nha Trang, South Vietnam. During the day and night of 30–31 January, Sergeant Major *West* repeatedly exposed himself to small arms fire while organizing the defense of the compound, directing the placement of the crew-served weapons, and resupplying the weapons positions. During the conflict, two small children came out of an alley approximately 50 feet forward of the front position, and the enemy fired at them with small arms and machinegun fire. Completely disregarding his safety, Sergeant Major *West* left the front position, under the protection of covering fire, and dashed forward to rescue the children. Again, when the personnel positioned at the front position controlling the main avenue of approach were wounded, Sergeant Major *West* directed their evacuation. He then exposed himself to fire to drag sand bags to the front position in order to provide more cover. Sergeant Major *West* then took his position at the most exposed and dangerous sector of the perimeter and maintained his watchfulness throughout the night, leaving his position only when necessary to control activities on other portions of the perimeter. Despite grenade and mortar fire landing repeatedly within 15 meters of his position throughout the night, Sergeant Major *West*'s determination never wavered, and the enemy was deterred from launching a large scale attack on the compound. It was largely through Sergeant Major *West*'s determination, courage, and devotion to duty that the compound was held through the night, saving all the signal equipment for the 23d Army of Vietnam Division and inflicting heavy personnel casualties on the enemy. Sergeant Major *West*'s personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on him and his unit.

XI__BRONZE STAR MEDAL. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 11046, 24 August 1962, a Bronze Star Medal (with "V" device) in connection with military operations against hostile forces is awarded to:

Staff Sergeant *Luther G. Bruner*, [redacted], United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroic action on 23 February 1969, while serving as Assistant Platoon Sergeant, with Battery B, 5th Battalion, 2d Artillery, at Dau Tieng, Republic of Vietnam. The Dau Tieng Base Camp came under heavy mortar and rocket attacks. A mortar barrage hit in the vicinity of six personnel, wounding all of them. Staff Sergeant *Bruner* aided his platoon sergeant in moving the six wounded men away from danger and into a bunker. Still under heavy mortar and rocket fire, and with complete disregard for his personal safety, he ran 100 to 150 meters to obtain medical assistance for the wounded. His act of bravery and determined concern for the lives of his comrades prevented more severe injuries. Sergeant *Bruner*'s heroic actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army and reflected great credit on him and the military service.

XII__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 *Eng Amphavannasoukh*, [redacted], Royal Armed Forces of the Kingdom of Laos. July 1967 to June 1970.

Captain *Klaus D. Bohlman*, [redacted], Federal Republic of Germany Air Force. April 1969 to April 1971.

Major *David B. Ellis*, [redacted], Canadian Armed Forces. November 1970 to December 1970.

Captain *Huynh Hai Ho*, [redacted], Vietnamese Air Force. May 1970 to May 1971.

Lieutenant Colonel *Athanassi Karavanidis*, [redacted], Hellenic Army. August 1969 to June 1971.

Lieutenant Colonel *Wolfgang Lucius*, [redacted], Army of the Federal Republic of Germany. October 1965 to August 1970.

Colonel *Koseke Mateyoshi*, [redacted], Japanese Ground Self Defense Force. June 1970 to March 1971.

Major *Darcy Ramalho*, [redacted], Brazilian Army. January 1970 to February 1971.

First Sergeant *Jacinto Antonio Rumbo*, 67, Republic of Panama National Guard. July 1970 to July 1971.

Colonel *George Shao-Chi Tong*, [redacted], Army of the Republic of China. November 1963 to January 1971.

XIII__ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL. By direction of the President, under the provisions of paragraph 33, AR 672-5-1, the Army Commendation Medal for Meritorious achievement is awarded to:

Major *William Bain*, [redacted], Canadian Armed Forces. 7 October 1970.

XIV__SILVER STAR. So much of paragraph 3, section V, Department of the Army General Orders Number 31, 1971, pertaining to award of the Silver Star to Staff Sergeant *Oran L. Bingham, Jr.*, [redacted], (then Sergeant) United States Army, is amended to include "Silver Star (posthumously)."

XV__BRONZE STAR MEDAL. So much of section V, Department of the Army General Orders Number 1, 1971, as pertains to award of the Bronze Star Medal with "V" device on 13 April 1966, to Sergeant First Class *George W. Braxton*, [redacted], United States Army, as reads: "Bronze Star Medal with "V" device," is amended to read: "Bronze Star Medal with "V" device (First Oak Leaf Cluster)."

By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

W. C. WESTMORELAND,
General, United States Army,
Chief of Staff.

Official:
VERNE L. BOWERS,
Major General, United States Army,
The Adjutant General.

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

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1972