

GENERAL ORDERS

No. 3

HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, DC 24 January 1973 ✓

The Department of the Army announces with deep regret the death of its former Commander in Chief, The HONORABLE LYNDON BAINES JOHNSON, 36th President of the United States, who died on 22 January 1973 at Johnson City, Texas.

MR. JOHNSON was born on 27 August 1908 at Stonewall, Texas, near Johnson City. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree at Southwest Texas State Teachers College, San Marcos, Texas, in 1930, and subsequently taught in public schools in Cotulla, Pearsall, and Houston, Texas. He attended the Georgetown Law School. Honorary Doctor of Laws, Doctor of Civil Law, Doctor of Humane Letters, and Doctor of Literature degrees were also conferred on him.

MR. JOHNSON was a dynamic statesman and one of the most active and respected Congressmen the country has ever known. He possessed outstanding qualities of leadership which were demonstrated during the sorrowful and difficult time immediately after the assassination of President Kennedy. He firmly took charge of the Government and with unwavering courage and strength of purpose led the country through a period of progress and economic stability, reaffirming the principles of our democratic form of government.

Prior to being sworn in as President, MR. JOHNSON had served the country for thirty-two consecutive years in positions of responsibility, including Majority Whip, Minority Leader, and Majority Leader of the United States Senate, and Vice President. During World War II, although he was exempt by law from military duty as a member of the Congress, MR. JOHNSON volunteered his services to the United States Navy and participated in heavy action in the Pacific Theater, receiving the Silver Star for gallantry in New Guinea. He was recalled from active duty by a personal Presidential Order to return to his Congressional post. He remained in the United States Naval Reserve until 18 January 1964, when he resigned his commission.

In 1964, MR. JOHNSON was elected to the highest office in the Nation, after assuming the Presidency one year earlier. His aspiration to build a better America was reflected in his inaugural speech when he stated: "The oath I have taken before you and before God is not mine alone, but ours together. We are one nation and one people. Our fate and our future rest not upon one citizen but upon all citizens."

During his administration as President of the United States, he was dedicated to seeking peace, defending freedom for all, and enriching the life of man. He worked diligently to achieve these goals, as was evinced by his stand against armed Communist aggression in Vietnam and by his initiation of legislation to strengthen our economy; to erase poverty, illness, and ignorance; to promote equality for all; and to improve and enrich the quality of the American life. With his many achievements, President JOHNSON rightfully earned a place in the history of our country and fulfilled his pledge to this Nation: "I will lead and I will do the best I can."

The loss of this most distinguished, dedicated, and patriotic citizen will be mourned by the country whose people will be deprived of his profound leadership and philosophy. The grief of the Nation is deeply shared by members of the United States Army.

As a mark of respect to the memory of Mr. JOHNSON, the National Flag will be displayed at half-staff on all installations under the control of the Department of the Army for 30 days from date of death.

The remains of Mr. JOHNSON will lie in state in the Rotunda of the United States Capitol from 24 January 1973 to 25 January 1973. Funeral services will be conducted in the National City Christian Church, Washington, D.C. on 25 January 1973, and Mr. JOHNSON will be buried in the family cemetery at the LBJ Ranch, Johnson City, Texas, on that date.

The Commanding Generals, Military District of Washington and Fifth United States Army, will render appropriate honors.

By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

CREIGHTON W. ABRAMS
General, United States Army
Chief of Staff

Official:

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