GENERAL ORDERS
No. 34

HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, DC, *18 October 1973*

The death of Lieutenant General GILBERT HUME WOODWARD, The Inspector General, United States Army, which occurred on 17 October 1973 in Middlesex England is announced with deep regret.

GENERAL WOODWARD was born June 8, 1917, in Suffolk, Virginia. He attended public schools in Suffolk and later the Columbian Preparatory School in Washington, DC. Appointed to the United States Military Academy by Representative Colgate Darden of Virginia, he graduated in 1940 and was commissioned a second lieutenant, Cavalry. After attending the Cavalry School at Fort Riley, Kansas, he joined the 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, at Fort Bliss, Texas. There he served as platoon leader and troop commander, departing to become an assistant G–3, 84th Infantry Division, in 1942.

After graduation from the Command and General Staff College in 1943, GENERAL WOODWARD returned to the 84th Infantry Division as a Training Inspection Officer. In March 1944, he became Commanding Officer, Special Troops, 94th Infantry Division. He served in this position throughout four European campaigns and, following World War II, for a brief period on occupation duty in Czechoslovakia. He returned to the War Department and served in the Personnel and Training Branch, Civil Affairs Division, leaving in 1947 to attend graduate school at the University of Virginia. Upon conclusion of his studies in Political Science, he was assigned as an assistant professor in the Department of Social Sciences, United States Military Academy. While at West Point, GENERAL WOODWARD continued graduate studies in Public Law and Government at Columbia University.

In 1950, he attended the Officers' Advance Course of the Armor School at Fort Knox, after which he assumed command of the 42d Armored Infantry Battalion, 2d Armored Division, moving with the division to Germany in July 1951. He left this position in 1953 to become Staff Secretary to the US Commander, Berlin. On completion of this assignment in 1955, he attended the Armed Forces Staff College in Norfolk, Virginia. GENERAL WOODWARD was then ordered to the Army General Staff, where he served in the Plans Directorate, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Military Operations; as Special Assistant for National Security Council Affairs; and as Chief of the International Policy Planning Division. He attended the National War College in 1958–59, and after graduating, served at Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers, Europe. Leaving this post in 1962, he commanded Combat Command B, 3d Armored Division, in Germany, returning to Washington in 1963 to become Deputy Director of Coordination and Analysis, Office of the Chief of Staff.

During that tour, he was promoted to brigadier general, and served as Chief, Programs Division and later as Chief, Strategic Plans and Policy Division, J-5, Organization, the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

While a member of the Joint Staff, he directed a study of NATO Military Force Posture for the Department of Defense, and later served as Military Assistant to the Honorable John J. McCloy, Special Assistant to the President, in the Tripartite Conference on NATO Force Posture. Leaving that post in September 1966, he became Assistant Division Commander, 2d Armored Division. In April 1968, he was appointed as the Senior Member United Nations Command Component, Military Armistice Commission in Korea, where he represented the United Nations Command in its confrontations with the North Koreans. While in this assignment, he was the US representative who successfully negotiated with the North Koreans for release of the crew of the USS Pueblo in December 1968.

In March 1969, General Woodward returned again to Washington as Director of Plans, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Military Operations, Department of the Army. In September 1970, he departed for Korea where he commanded the 2d Infantry Division until November 1971, when he returned to the United States and became the Deputy Director of the Joint Staff, Organization, the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Ordered to Vietnam in May 1972, he served as the Chief of Staff, United States Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, through January 1973. Following the Paris Agreement on Vietnam, he was selected to be the Chief United States Representative, Four-Party Joint Military Commission, Vietnam.

In June 1973 he was appointed as The Inspector General of the United States Army and promoted to the rank of lieutenant general. General Woodward was serving in this capacity at the time of his death on 17 October 1973.

In the course of his Army career, General Woodward was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster; the Legion of Merit with two Oak Leaf Clusters; the Bronze Star Medal; and the Joint Service Commendation Medal. His service awards included the Army of Occupation of Germany Medal; American Defense Service Medal; American Campaign Medal; European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal; World War II Victory Medal; National Defense Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster; Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal; Vietnam Service Medal; and Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with 1960 Device. General Woodward's foreign decorations included the Czechoslovakian War Cross; the Order of National Security Merit, Cheon-Su Medal (Korea); and the National Order of Vietnam (Fourth Class).

General Woodward's life was characterized by integrity, courage, dedication and patriotism. These qualities earned him the admiration and respect of all who knew him. The grief caused by General Woodward's death is deeply shared by all members of the United States Army.

As a mark of respect to the memory of Lieutenant General Gilbert Hume Woodward, the Commanding Officer, Fort McNair, will render appropriate honors in accordance with AR 600–25. The National Flag will be flown at half-staff at Fort McNair and Fort Myer for the prescribed period.

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

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