

GENERAL ORDERS }  
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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
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**1. DISTINGUISHED-SERVICE CROSS.**—By direction of the President, under the act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (WD Bul. 43, 1918), the Distinguished-Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action against an enemy during the periods indicated is awarded posthumously to the following-named officer and enlisted man:

Sergeant *Clyde L. Bennett* (Service No. \_\_\_\_\_), Armor, United States Army, a tank commander with Company B, 89th Medium Tank Battalion, distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy of the United Nations near Sandokchong-Ni, Korea, on 21 May 1951. Committed to enter a narrow valley to contact and engage the enemy, Sergeant *Bennett's* platoon was ruthlessly attacked and surrounded by a numerically superior force. During the bitter fighting which ensued, Sergeant *Bennett*, detecting one of the half-tracks moving slowly because of mechanical failure, placed his tank direct in the path of hostile fire to shield the disabled vehicle and its exposed crew. When the enemy on the hills to his left and right attempted to flank his position, rendering fire from his tank ineffective, Sergeant *Bennett* left the protective cover of the armored turret and, braving withering hostile fire, fearlessly manned the .50 caliber machine gun mounted on the rear of the deck. Maintaining his stand, Sergeant *Bennett* delivered accurate fire into the ranks of the enemy until he was mortally wounded. His courageous action retarded the hostile advance, exacted a heavy toll in casualties, and insured the safe withdrawal of friendly forces. Sergeant *Bennett's* unflinching courage and consummate devotion to duty reflect the highest credit on himself and uphold the finest traditions of the military service.

Captain *Kenneth E. Brown*, \_\_\_\_\_, Infantry, United States Army, as commanding officer of Company L, 3d Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment, distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy of the United Nations near Idong-Myon, Korea, on 1 and 2 June 1951. On 1 June, when leading elements of his attacking company were stopped by hostile fire, Captain *Brown* continued the advance. Using his pistol and throwing grenades, he personally eliminated an enemy machine gun and two automatic rifles and killed three and captured one of the enemy. Under his aggressive leadership, his company resumed the advance and secured its objective. Within 2 hours the enemy launched determined counterattacks. Throughout the night, although twice wounded, Captain *Brown* moved among his men, encouraging them to hold on. When ammunition became low, he gathered and distributed enemy weapons and ammunition. Personally participating in the fighting with any weapon available, and finally with clubbed rifle and his fists, Captain *Brown* continued to set an inspiring example to his men until he was killed by a burst of machine-gun fire. As a result of his unflinching courage and inspiring leadership, the position was maintained and a heavy toll of dead and wounded inflicted upon the enemy. Captain *Brown's* heroic action reflects the highest credit on himself and upholds the finest traditions of the military service.

**II..DISTINGUISHED-SERVICE CROSS.**—By direction of the President, under the act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (WD Bul. 43, 1918), the Distinguished-Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action against an enemy on the date indicated is awarded to the following-named enlisted man:

Sergeant First Class *Eduardo C. Gomez* (Service No. \_\_\_\_\_) (then sergeant), Infantry, United States Army, a member of Company I, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy of the United Nations near Tabu-dong, Korea, on 3 September 1950. While readying defensive positions, Sergeant *Gomez*' company was ruthlessly attacked at approximately 0100 hours by a hostile force comprising an infantry regiment and spearheaded by two T-34 tanks, the foremost of which moved to within 75 yards of the command post before it was immobilized by rocket fire, but its main battery and machine guns continued to rake the company perimeter with devastating fire. Realizing the tank posed a serious threat to the entire perimeter, Sergeant *Gomez* voluntarily, and fully aware of the odds against him, crawled 30 yards across an open rice field vulnerable to enemy observation and fire, boarded the tank, and, prying open one of the hatches on the turret, dropped an activated grenade into the hull, killing the crew. Wounded in the left side while returning to his position, Sergeant *Gomez* refused to be evacuated. Observing that the tripod of a .30 caliber machine gun was rendered inoperable by enemy fire, he cradled the weapon in his arms, returned to the forward defensive positions, and swept the assaulting force with withering fire. Although his weapon overheated and burned his hands and his painful wound still bled, Sergeant *Gomez* maintained his stand and, upon orders to withdraw in the face of overwhelming enemy superiority, remained to provide protective fire. Then, retiring slowly, he continued to pour accurate fire into the ranks of the enemy, which exacted a heavy toll in casualties and retarded the enemy's advance. Sergeant *Gomez* would not consent to leave his post for medical attention until the company established new defensive positions. Sergeant *Gomez*' inspirational actions and consummate devotion to duty reflect the highest credit on himself and are in keeping with the cherished traditions of the military service.

**III..DISTINGUISHED-SERVICE MEDAL.**—1. By direction of the President, under the act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (WD Bul. 43, 1918), the Distinguished-Service Medal for exceptionally meritorious and distinguished service in a position of great responsibility during the periods indicated is awarded to the following-named officers:

Brigadier General *George P. Peplow*, \_\_\_\_\_, United States Army.

7 February to 23 October 1951.

Major General *Oliver P. Smith*, \_\_\_\_\_, United States Marine Corps.

29 July 1950 to 23 April 1951.

Major General *Robert H. Soule*, \_\_\_\_\_, United States Army. 8 November

1950 to 20 October 1951.

Colonel *Albert K. Stebbins, Jr.*, \_\_\_\_\_, General Staff Corps (Infantry),  
United States Army. 30 June 1950 to 21 October 1951.

2. By direction of the President, under the act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (WD Bul. 43, 1918), the Distinguished-Service Medal (first Oak-Leaf Cluster) for exceptionally meritorious and distinguished service in a position of great responsibility during the period indicated is awarded to the following-named officer:

Brigadier General *Urban Niblo*, \_\_\_\_\_, United States Army, 25 June 1950 to 19 November 1951.

**IV. SILVER STAR.**—By direction of the President, under the act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (WD Bul. 43, 1918), the Silver Star for gallantry in action on the date indicated is awarded to the following-named enlisted man:

Sergeant *Florentino V. Romano* (Service No. RA ), Army Medical Service, United States Army, while serving as an aidman with Company A, 5th Infantry Regiment, distinguished himself by gallantry in action near Hagagye, Korea, on 25 April 1951. Advancing up a narrow, mountainous draw, Sergeant *Romano's* company encountered withering fire from both flanks, which halted the advance. During this action, he constantly braved vicious, hostile fire when moving among forward elements shouting words of encouragement and aiding and evacuating the wounded. Later, when the company was ordered to withdraw, he repeatedly traversed the fire-swept area searching for and bringing stricken comrades to safety. Sergeant *Romano's* calm demeanor and steadying influence bolstered morale, contributed significantly to the orderly withdrawal of the troops, and, through his vigilance and selfless concern, approximately 20 wounded were evacuated to safety. Sergeant *Romano's* courageous actions reflect great credit on himself and the military service.

**V. LEGION OF MERIT.**—1. By direction of the President, under the act of Congress approved 20 July 1942 (sec. III, WD Bul. 40, 1942) and Executive Order 9260, 29 October 1942 (sec. I, WD Bul. 54, 1942), the Legion of Merit for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service during the periods indicated is awarded to the following-named officers:

Brigadier General *James P. Cooney*, , United States Army, 1 March 1950 to 30 May 1951.  
Colonel *Wilbert A. Speir*, , Signal Corps, United States Army. 11 July 1950 to 1 August 1951.

2. By direction of the President, under the act of Congress approved 20 July 1942 (sec. III, WD Bul. 40, 1942) and Executive Order 9260, 29 October 1942 (sec. I, WD Bul. 54, 1942), the Legion of Merit (first Oak-Leaf Cluster) for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service during the periods indicated is awarded to the following-named officers:

Colonel *Robert T. Hazlett*, O39792, General Staff Corps (Infantry), United States Army. 4 March to 13 June 1951.

Colonel *William J. McCaffrey*, (then lieutenant colonel), General Staff Corps (Infantry), United States Army. 23 August 1950 to 14 March 1951.

Lieutenant Colonel *Willard P. McCrone*, , Corps of Engineers, United States Army. 17 March 1950 to 1 November 1950.

Brigadier General *Don G. Shingler*, , United States Army. 1 June 1950 to 5 January 1951.

Brigadier General *Numa A. Watson*, , United States Army. 14 February to 11 November 1951.

**VI. LEGION OF MERIT.**—1. By direction of the President, under the act of Congress approved 20 July 1942 (sec. III, WD Bul. 40, 1942) and Executive Order 9260, 29 October 1942 (sec. I, WD Bul. 54, 1942), the Legion of Merit, in the Degree of Commander, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service during the periods indicated is awarded to the following-named officers:

Major General *Zenon Noriega Aguero*, Army of Peru. 30 October 1948 to 19 October 1951.

Brigadier General *Leonidas Plineda Maldonado*, Army of Honduras. April 1948 to November 1951.

2. By direction of the President, under the act of Congress approved 20 July 1942 (sec. III, WD Bul. 40, 1942) and Executive Order 9260, 29 October 1942 (sec. I, WD Bul. 54, 1942), the Legion of Merit, in the Degree of Officer, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service during the periods indicated is awarded to the following-named officers:

Major General *Pisit Diskul*, Thailand Army. October 1950 to May 1951.

Colonel *Suerre Refsum*, Army of Norway. March 1949 to October 1951.

3. By direction of the President, under the act of Congress approved 20 July 1942 (sec. III, WD Bul. 40, 1942) and Executive Order 9260, 29 October 1942 (sec. I, WD Bul. 54, 1942), the Legion of Merit, in the Degree of Legionnaire, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service during the period indicated is awarded to the following-named officer:

Colonel *Moon Bong Kang*, Korean Army. June to September 1950.

**VII. BRONZE STAR MEDAL.**—1. By direction of the President, under Executive Order 9419, 4 February 1944 (sec. II, WD Bul. 3, 1944), the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States during the periods is awarded to the following-named officers:

First Lieutenant *Louis A. J. Besse*, French Army. November 1944 to March 1945.

Captain *Johnnie C. Koon*, , Corps of Military Police, Army of the United States. 31 March 1944 to 17 November 1945.

2. By direction of the President, under Executive Order 9419, 4 February 1944 (sec. II, WD Bul. 3, 1944), the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States on the date indicated is awarded the following-named officer:

Major *William F. McGonagle*, (then captain), Artillery, Army of the United States. 22 February 1943.

**VIII. BRONZE STAR MEDAL.**—By direction of the President, under Executive Order 9419, 4 February 1944 (sec. II, WD Bul. 3, 1944), the Bronze Star Medal with "V" device for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States on the dates indicated is awarded to the following-named enlisted man:

Sergeant *Norman W. Kunkel* (Service No. ), Corps of Engineers, Army of the United States, a member of Company A, 1279th Engineer Combat Battalion, distinguished himself by heroic achievement in connection with military operations against an armed enemy in Albay Province, Luzon, Philippine Islands, on 3 and 7 April 1945. He capably assisted in the detection and clearing, on 3 April, under intense enemy small-arms and mortar fire, of a large mine field consisting of 100-pound activated aerial bombs, thus allowing the forward movement of friendly infantry troops. When enemy pillboxes were encountered, which held up the advance on 7 April, Sergeant *Kunkel* voluntarily crawled forward and ordered the occupants of one of the pillboxes to evacuate the position and surrender. The hostile troops refused and directed their fire on Sergeant *Kunkel*, which he returned, but with little results. He then prepared several white phosphorus charges, secured grenades, and threw them through the opening of the pillbox, killing all the enemy occupants. The initiative, courage, and devotion to duty demonstrated by Sergeant *Kunkel* reflect credit on himself and the military service.

**IX. COMMENDATION RIBBON WITH METAL PENDANT.**—1. By direction of the Secretary of the Army, under AR 600-45, the Commendation Ribbon with Metal Pendant for meritorious service during the periods indicated is awarded to the following-named officers and enlisted men:

Master Sergeant *James A. Butler* (Service No. ), Transportation Corps, United States Army. 1 June 1950 to 1 July 1951.

Colonel *Earle F. Cook*, , Signal Corps, United States Army. 20 August 1949 to 30 June 1951.

Captain *Eugene A. Darrow*, , Artillery, United States Army. 18 October 1950 to 1 July 1951.

Lieutenant Colonel *Robert D. Densfield*, (then major), Transportation Corps, United States Army. 20 November 1949 to 30 June 1951.

Master Sergeant *Finley G. Deshler* (Service No. ), Finance Corps, United States Army. 20 March 1950 to 30 June 1951.

Master Sergeant *Archie J. Emry* (Service No. ), Corps of Engineers, United States Army. 15 March 1950 to 30 May 1951.

Lieutenant Colonel *Alexander J. Frolich*, , United States Army. 17 March 1950 to 1 July 1951.

Sergeant First Class *William P. Griffiths* (Service No. ), Corps of Engineers, United States Army. 17 March to 30 September 1950.

Master Sergeant *Samuel N. Hite* (Service No. ), Corps of Engineers, United States Army. 17 March to 30 September 1950.

Colonel *Philip L. Hooper*, (then lieutenant colonel), Infantry, United States Army. 1 May 1950 to 27 May 1951.

Sergeant *David J. Lyons* (Service No. ), Transportation Corps, United States Army. 26 October 1950 to 18 May 1951.

Colonel *Roy D. Maxwell*, , Medical Service Corps, United States Army. 27 February to 31 May 1951.

First Lieutenant *William F. Skidmore*, , Artillery, United States Army. 20 March 1950 to 5 July 1951.

Master Sergeant *Joe L. Vernon* (Service No. ), Corps of Engineers, United States Army. 17 March to 30 September 1950.

2. By direction of the Secretary of the Army, under AR 600-45, the Commendation Ribbon with Metal Pendant for meritorious achievement during the period indicated is awarded to the following-named officer:

Major *Travis Lindsey*, (then captain), Transportation Corps, United States Army. 3 January 1950 to 31 January 1951.

3. By direction of the Secretary of the Army, under AR 600-45, the Commendation Ribbon with Metal Pendant (first Oak-Leaf Cluster) for meritorious service during the period indicated is awarded to the following-named officer:

Lieutenant Colonel *Burnis M. Kelly*, , Signal Corps, United States Army. 26 June 1950 to 1 June 1951.

**X. LEGION OF MERIT.**—So much of paragraph 3, section VI, DA General Orders 85, 1951, pertaining to Colonel *Noble J. Wiley, Jr.*, as reads "Legion of Merit (second Oak-Leaf Cluster)" is amended to read "Legion of Merit (first Oak-Leaf Cluster)."

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

OFFICIAL:

WM. E. BERGIN

Major General, USA

The Adjutant General

J. LAWTON COLLINS

Chief of Staff, United States Army