

GENERAL ORDERS }  
No. 5

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C., 14 January 1955

## AWARD OF THE MEDAL OF HONOR



By direction of the President, under the act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (WD Bul. 43, 1918), 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 the Congress to the following-named enlisted man:



Corporal *Dan D. Schoonover* (Service No. ), Corps of Engineers, United States Army, a member of Company A, 13th Engineer Combat Battalion, 7th Infantry Division, distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry and outstanding courage above and beyond the call of duty in action against the enemy near Sokkogne, Korea, from 8 to 10 July 1953. Corporal *Schoonover* was in charge of an engineer demolition squad attached to an infantry company which was committed to dislodge the enemy from a vital hill. Realizing that the heavy fighting and intense enemy fire made it impossible to carry out his mission, he voluntarily employed his unit as a rifle squad and, forging up the steep, barren slope, participated in the assault on hostile positions. When an artillery round exploded on the roof of an enemy bunker, he courageously ran forward and leaped into the position, killing one hostile infantryman and taking another prisoner. Later in the action, when friendly forces were pinned down by vicious fire from another enemy bunker, he dashed through the hail of fire, hurled grenades in the nearest aperture, then ran to the doorway and emptied his pistol, killing the remainder of the enemy. His brave action neutralized the position and enabled friendly troops to continue their advance to the crest of the hill. When the enemy counterattacked he constantly exposed himself to the heavy bombardment to direct the fire of his men and to call in an effective artillery barrage on hostile forces. Although the company was relieved early the following morning, he voluntarily remained in the area, manned a machine gun for several hours, and subsequently joined another assault on enemy emplacements. When last seen he was operating an automatic rifle with devastating effect until mortally wounded by artillery fire. Corporal *Schoonover's* heroic leadership during 2 days of heavy fighting, superb personal bravery and willing self-sacrifice inspired his comrades and saved many lives, reflecting lasting glory on himself and upholding the honored traditions of the military service.



This general order will be read to all troops and will be posted conspicuously on the bulletin boards in each unit area.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

M. B. RIDGWAY,  
*General, United States Army,*  
*Chief of Staff.*

OFFICIAL:

JOHN A. KLEIN,  
*Major General, United States Army,*  
*The Adjutant General.*

DISTRIBUTION:

*Active Army:* A

To be distributed on a need-to-know basis to all units and headquarters down to and including companies and batteries and to units and headquarters of comparable size and responsibility.

*NG and USAR:* B

To be distributed on a need-to-know basis to all units and headquarters down to and including separate battalions (administrative) and to units and headquarters of comparable size and responsibility.