AWARD OF THE MEDAL OF HONOR







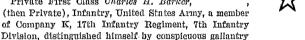


By direction of the President, under the act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (WD Bul. 43, 1918), the Medal of Honor for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty is awarded posthumously by the Department of the Army in the name of the Congress to the following-named enlisted man:



Private First Class Charles H. Barker, (then Private), Infantry, United States Army, a member of Company K, 17th Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry

and indomitable courage above and beyond the call of duty in action against the enemy near Sokkogae, Korea, on 4 June 1953. While participating in a combat patrol engaged in screening an approach to "Pork-Chop Outpost,"





Private Barker and his companions surprised and engaged an enemy group digging emplacements on the slope. Totally unprepared, the hostile troops sought cover. After ordering Private Barker and a comrade to lay down a base of fire, the patrol leader maneuvered the remainder

of the platoon to a vantage point on higher ground. Private Barker moved to an open area firing his rifle and hurling grenades on the hostile positions. As enemy action increased in volume and intensity, mortar bursts fell on friendly positions, ammunition was in critical





supply, and the platoon was ordered to withdraw into a perimeter defense preparatory to moving back to the outpost. Voluntarily electing to cover the retrograde movement, he gallantly maintained a defense and was last seen in close hand-to-hand combat with the enemy. Private Barker's unflinching courage, consummate devotion to duty, and supreme sacrifice enabled the patrol to com-

plete the mission and effect an orderly withdrawal to friendly lines, reflecting lasting glory upon himself and upholding the highest 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.

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NG and USAR: B.

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