

GENERAL ORDERS

No. 51

HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, DC, 8 August 1969

AWARD OF THE MEDAL OF HONOR



By direction of the President, under the Joint Resolution of Congress approved 12 July 1862 (amended by act of 3 March 1863, act of 9 July 1918 and act of 25 July 1963), the Medal of Honor for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty is awarded by the Department of the Army in the name of the Congress, posthumously, to:



Staff Sergeant *Frankie Z. Molnar*, United States Army, who distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity while serving as a squad leader with Company B, 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry, 4th Infantry Division, on 20 May 1967 during combat operations in Kontum Province, Republic of Vietnam. Shortly after the battalion's defensive perimeter was established, it was hit by intense mortar fire as the prelude to a massive enemy night attack. Sergeant *Molnar* immediately left his sheltered location to insure the readiness of his squad to meet the attack. As he crawled through the position, he discovered a group of enemy soldiers closing in on his squad area. His accurate rifle fire killed five enemy and forced the remainder to flee. When the mortar fire stopped, the enemy attacked in a human wave supported by grenades, rockets, automatic weapons, and small arms fire. After assisting to repel the first enemy assault, Sergeant *Molnar* found that his squad's ammunition and grenade supply was nearly expended. Again leaving the relative safety of his position, he crawled through intense enemy fire to secure additional ammunition and distribute it to his squad. He rejoined his men to beat back the renewed enemy onslaught, and he moved about his area providing medical aid and assisting in the evacuation of the wounded. With the help of several men, he was preparing to move a severely wounded soldier when an enemy hand grenade was thrown into the group. The first to see the grenade, Sergeant *Molnar* threw himself on it and absorbed the deadly blast to save his comrades. His demonstrated selflessness and inspirational leadership on the battle field were a major factor in the successful defense of the American position and are in keeping with the finest traditions of the United States Army. Sergeant *Molnar's* actions reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.



GO 51

By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

Official:

KENNETH G. WICKHAM,
Major General, United States Army,
The Adjutant General.

W. C. WESTMORELAND,
General, United States Army,
Chief of Staff.

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