

GENERAL ORDERS

No. 48

HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, DC, 8 September 1970

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 posthumously by the Department of the Army in the name of Congress to:

Sergeant *William D. Port*, (then Private First Class), United States Army, who distinguished himself on 12 January 1968 while serving as a rifleman with Company C, 5th Battalion, 7th Cavalry, 1st Air Cavalry Division which was conducting combat operations against an enemy force in the Que Son Valley, ~~at~~ ⁱⁿ Duc Province, Republic of Vietnam. As Sergeant *Port's* platoon was moving to cut off a reported movement of enemy soldiers, the platoon came under heavy fire from an entrenched enemy force. The platoon was forced to withdraw due to the intensity and ferocity of the fire. Although wounded in the hand as the withdrawal began, Sergeant *Port*, with complete disregard for his own safety, ran through the heavy fire to assist a wounded comrade back to the safety of the platoon perimeter. As the enemy forces assaulted in the perimeter, Sergeant *Port* and three comrades were in position behind an embankment when an enemy grenade landed in their midst. Sergeant *Port*, realizing the danger to his fellow soldiers, shouted the warning, "grenade", and unhesitatingly hurled himself towards the grenade to shield his comrades from the explosion. Through his exemplary courage and devotion he saved the lives of his fellow soldiers and gave the members of his platoon the inspiration needed to hold their position. Sergeant *Port's* conspicuous gallantry, selfless concern for his comrades, and intrepidity at the risk of his own life above and beyond the call of duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on himself, his unit, and the United States Army.



GO 48

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.*

Distribution:

To be distributed in accordance with DA Form 12-4 requirements.