

GENERAL ORDERS

No. 4

HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, DC, 25 January 1972

GO 4

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:

Second Lieutenant *Robert R. Leisy*, Infantry, United States Army, Company B, 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division, who distinguished himself on 2 December 1969 while serving as platoon leader during a reconnaissance mission in Phuoc Long Province, Republic of Vietnam. One of his patrols became heavily engaged by fire from a numerically superior enemy force located in a well-entrenched bunker complex. As Lieutenant *Leisy* deployed the remainder of his platoon to rescue the beleaguered patrol, the platoon also came under intense enemy fire from the front and both flanks. In complete disregard for his own safety, Lieutenant *Leisy* moved from position to position deploying his men to effectively engage the enemy. Accompanied by his radio operator he moved to the front and spotted an enemy sniper in a tree in the act of firing a rocket-propelled grenade at them. Realizing there was neither time to escape the grenade nor shout a warning, Lieutenant *Leisy* unhesitatingly, and with full knowledge of the consequences, shielded the radio operator with his body and absorbed the full impact of the explosion. This valorous act saved the life of the radio operator and protected other men of his platoon who were nearby from serious injury. Despite his mortal wounds, Lieutenant *Leisy* calmly and confidently continued to direct the platoon's fire. When medical aid arrived, Lieutenant *Leisy* valiantly refused attention until the other seriously wounded were treated. His display of extraordinary courage and exemplary devotion to duty provided the inspiration and leadership that enabled his platoon to successfully withdraw without further casualties. Lieutenant *Leisy's* conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the cost of his own life are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army.

GO 4

By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

Official:

VERNE L. BOWERS,
*Major General, United States Army,
The Adjutant General.*

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

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