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**I. DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS.** By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 25 July 1963, the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action is awarded posthumously to:

Sergeant *Darrell E. Burns*, , United States Army, Company B, 5th Battalion, 7th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division, who distinguished himself while a member of a rifle company deployed against hostile forces in the Kingdom of Cambodia on 22 June 1970. On that date Sergeant *Burns*' squad was deployed in a company-size perimeter when it began to receive small arms and rocket fire from an unknown-size enemy force. After the initial contact subsided, Sergeant *Burns* detected movement to the front. Disregarding his personal safety, he moved outside the perimeter in order to gain a satisfactory position from which to use fragmentation grenades on the suspected enemy. Sergeant *Burns* threw a grenade in the direction of the hostiles and the grenade hit a tree and bounced back toward the company perimeter. Realizing that the grenade would explode close to his comrades and the number of friendly casualties that could result, Sergeant *Burns* unhesitatingly and with complete disregard for his safety, lunged in the direction of the grenade as other personnel scrambled for cover. Sergeant *Burns* sacrificed his life as he threw himself in the direction of the grenade and absorbed the total and lethal fragmentation effects of the grenade as it exploded. Sergeant *Burns*' extraordinary heroism, selflessness, and profound courage at the cost of his own life are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army and reflect great credit on him, his country, and the United States Army.

**II. DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS.** By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 25 July 1963, the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action is awarded posthumously to:

Specialist Four *Martin T. McDonald*, , United States Army, Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 503d Infantry, 173d Airborne Brigade, who distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 10 April 1971. On that date Specialist *McDonald* was serving as

a medical aid-man for a six-man reconnaissance team on an offensive mission in the Phu My District, when the team was taken under fire by an estimated platoon-sized enemy force. The enemy-initiated contact included rockets, machinegun and automatic small arms fire. In the initial hail of fire the team leader was severely wounded, and the remainder of the team was halted a short distance away, leaving him in an open, vulnerable position. Specialist *McDonald*, although wounded himself during the initial contact, realized the extreme danger his team leader was in and, with total disregard for his personal safety, exposed himself to the intense enemy fire and ran to the aid of his fallen team leader. He then placed himself between the team leader and the enemy and began returning fire. An incoming rocket landed nearby, wounding him for the second time as the force of the explosion knocked him to the ground. He immediately recovered and rolled over on his team leader to protect him from the enemy fire. Realizing that further movement was impossible, Specialist *McDonald* stood up between the enemy and the severely wounded man and began placing accurate semi-automatic fire upon the enemy positions, until he was mortally wounded by an enemy rocket. Specialist Four *McDonald's* extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on him and the United States Army.

**III. DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS.** By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 25 July 1963, the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action is awarded posthumously to:

Sergeant *Dennis L. Rouska*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action while serving with Company D, 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry, 196th Infantry Brigade in the Republic of Vietnam on 7 December 1970. On that date Sergeant *Rouska* was serving as a machine gunner in a rifle platoon during the night of a mortar attack. As the lethal mortar rounds began falling, Sergeant *Rouska* unhesitatingly left his secure position and maneuvered through the exploding enemy rounds to aid his wounded comrades. Although wounded by fragmentation, he remained exposed to the fusillade of rounds impacting around him. Attempting to administer first aid, Sergeant *Rouska* heard an incoming mortar round, and, realizing the full implication of his sacrifice, he threw himself upon his comrade, shielding him from the exploding mortar. Through his indomitable courage, disregard for his safety and concern for his fellow soldier, he averted the loss of a life. Sergeant *Rouska's* extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty at the cost of his life are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on him and the United States Army. (This award supersedes the Silver Star awarded to Sergeant (then Specialist Four) *Rouska* for gallantry in action on 7 December 1970, as announced in 23d Infantry Division General Orders Number 674, 1971.)

**IV. DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS.** By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 25 July 1963, the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action is awarded posthumously to:

Captain *Jon E. Swanson*, , Infantry, United States Army, Troop B, 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division, who distinguished

himself by extraordinary heroism in action on 26 February 1971. On that date Captain *Swanson* was providing reconnaissance support to elements of the Army of the Republic of Vietnam during operations in Cambodia. When the friendly unit was taken under fire by an entrenched enemy force, Captain *Swanson* immediately flew his aircraft to the point of contact. There he began a series of attacks to suppress the enemy's fire and to ascertain the size and disposition of the enemy's force. In spite of intense enemy fire directed at his small, vulnerable aircraft, Captain *Swanson* made repeated low passes over the enemy positions. After destroying several bunkers with grenades, Captain *Swanson* directed attacks by other helicopters against a concealed enemy anti-aircraft position. While returning to reconnoiter this target, Captain *Swanson's* aircraft was struck by enemy fire and he was forced to land and inspect the damage sustained by his aircraft. Realizing that he had discovered a major enemy ambush site which posed a serious threat to friendly troops, Captain *Swanson* elected to continue the mission. He returned to the ambush area in the face of heavy enemy fire and repeatedly hovered low over enemy positions, marking them with smoke grenades to aid subsequent attacks by other helicopters. While flying at a low level to determine the effects of these attacks, his aircraft was struck by enemy fire and exploded. Through his indomitable courage and complete disregard for his personal safety, he averted great loss of life and injury among the friendly ground forces. Captain *Swanson's* extraordinary heroism, and profound courage at the cost of his life, are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on him and the United States Army.

**V. DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS.** By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 25 July 1963, the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action is awarded posthumously to:

Mr. *John Paul Fann*, Agency for International Development, United States Department of State, who distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action during the period 23 April to 24 April 1972, in Vietnam. During an intense enemy attack by mortar, artillery and guided missiles on the 22d Army of the Republic of Vietnam Division forward command post at Tan Canh, Mr. *Fann* chose to have his light helicopter land in order to assist the Command Group. After landing, he ordered his helicopter to begin evacuating civilian employees and the more than fifty wounded soldiers while he remained on the ground to assist in evacuating the wounded and provide direction to the demoralized troops. With total disregard for his own safety, Mr. *Fann* continuously exposed himself to enemy artillery and mortar fire. By personally assisting the wounded and giving them encouragement, he assured a calm and orderly evacuation. As the enemy fire increased in accuracy and tempo, he set the example by continuing to assist in carrying the wounded to the exposed helipad. His skillful command and control of the medical evacuation ships during the extremely intense enemy artillery fire enabled the maximum number of soldiers and civilians to be safely evacuated. On the following day the enemy launched a combined infantry-tank team attack at the 22nd Division Headquarters compound. Shortly thereafter, the Army of the Republic of Vietnam defense collapsed, enemy tanks penetrated the compound, and the enemy forces organized .51 caliber anti-aircraft positions in and around the compound area. To evade the enemy the United States advisors moved

under heavy automatic weapons fire to an area approximately 500 meters away from the compound. Completely disregarding the intense small arms and .51 caliber antiaircraft fire and the enemy tanks, Mr. *Vann* directed his helicopter toward the general location of the United States personnel, who were forced to remain in a concealed position. In searching for the advisors' location, his helicopter had to maintain an altitude and speed which made it extremely vulnerable to all forms of enemy fire. Undaunted, he continued his search until he located the advisors' position. Making an approach under minimal conditions he landed and quickly pulled three United States advisors into the aircraft. As the aircraft began to ascend, five Army of the Republic of Vietnam soldiers were clinging to the skids. Although the total weight far exceeded the maximum allowable for the light helicopter, Mr. *Vann* chose to save the Army of the Republic of Vietnam personnel holding on to the skids by having the helicopter maneuver without sharp evasive action. Consequently, the aircraft sustained numerous hits. In order to return to Tan Canh as soon as possible to save the remaining advisors, and to save the soldiers clinging to the skids, Mr. *Vann* detoured his aircraft from Kontum to a nearby airfield. Throughout this time Mr. *Vann* was directing air strikes on enemy tanks and antiaircraft positions. While enroute back to Tan Canh, Mr. *Vann's* helicopter was struck by heavy antiaircraft fire, which forced it to land. Throughout the day Mr. *Vann* assisted in extracting other advisors and soldiers in the Dak To area. On one such occasion another group of Army of the Republic of Vietnam soldiers attempted to cling to one side of his helicopter, causing it to crash. Undaunted by these occurrences, Mr. *Vann* continued directing air strikes and maneuvering friendly troops to safe areas. Because of his fearless and tireless efforts, Mr. *Vann* was directly responsible for saving hundreds of personnel from the enemy onslaught. His conspicuous gallantry and extraordinarily heroic actions reflected great credit on him and the United States of America.

**VI. SILVER STAR.** By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress, approved 9 July 1918, a Silver Star for gallantry in action is awarded to:

Major General *Swasdi Makkharoon*, Royal Thai Army, who distinguished himself by gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 27 March 1970, while serving as Commanding General of the Royal Thai Army Volunteer Force. On that date General *Swasdi* was flying over area of operations ARAN, where the 2d Company, 2d Battalion, 2d Brigade, Royal Thai Army Forces had made contact with the enemy in a bunker complex. General *Swasdi* knew that this was the unit's first contact with enemy forces since they had arrived in Vietnam and that they would need reassurance and encouragement to accomplish their mission. As the helicopter was making its second pass of the area, it came under heavy automatic weapons fire from the bunkers and sustained 14 hits. One of the rounds wounded General *Swasdi*, but, disregarding his painful wound, he continued to broadcast the location of the enemy to his troops. The helicopter began to malfunction, and the pilot flew it out of the contact area and landed the aircraft in an area that was not secured at the time. General *Swasdi*, realizing that the area was not secure, ordered the pilot to take off again and land on a road held by friendly troops. The helicopter, although malfunctioning and on fire, was able to make a forced landing on the road. General *Swasdi's* courageous actions and valorous leadership were in

keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit, and the Royal Thai Army.

**VII. LEGION OF MERIT.** 1. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 20 July 1942, and Executive Order 10600, 15 March 1955, the Legion of Merit (Degree of Commander) for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service is awarded to:

General *Alain Henry Paul De Boissieu Dean de Luigne*, French Army. May 1971 to February 1972.

Brigadier General *Homero Ignacio Leal Torres*, Venezuelan Army. August 1971 to January 1972.

2. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 20 July 1942, and Executive Order 10600, 15 March 1955, the Legion of Merit (Degree of Officer) for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service is awarded to:

Lieutenant General *Du Quoc Dong*, \_\_\_\_\_, Army of the Republic of Vietnam. January 1968 to July 1970.

Brigadier General *Shawki M. Golmish*, Army of Lebanon. July 1967 to June 1971.

Brigadier General *Hanns Heise*, \_\_\_\_\_, Air Force of the Federal Republic of Germany. September 1968 to September 1971.

Brigadier General *Kim Suk Koo*, \_\_\_\_\_, Republic of Korea Marine Corps. May 1970 to July 1971.

Brigadier General *Ernesto Baeza Michaelsen*, Army of Chile. February 1970 to March 1971.

Major General *Mohamad Charis Suhud*, Indonesian Army. July 1967 to February 1970.

3. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 20 July 1942, and Executive Order 10600, 15 March 1955, the Legion of Merit (Degree of Officer, Second Award) for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service is awarded to:

Lieutenant General *Nguyen Van Manh*, \_\_\_\_\_, Army of the Republic of Vietnam. August 1969 to June 1971.

**VIII. DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS.** By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Distinguished Flying Cross for heroism while participating in aerial flight is awarded to:

Major General *Ngo Quang Truong*, \_\_\_\_\_, Army of the Republic of Vietnam, who distinguished himself by heroism on 30 March 1970 while flying a visual reconnaissance mission in the vicinity of Camp Carroll, I Corps Tactical Zone. Upon receipt of intelligence information of an enemy build-up in an area northwest of Camp Carroll, General *Truong* flew a reconnaissance mission over the area under the most adverse weather conditions. Because of the gathering fog and the increasing darkness, the helicopter flew at a dangerously low altitude and received sporadic small arms fire on the way. Receiving an

urgent medical evacuation request from an area of intense fighting, General *Truong* landed at Camp Carroll and sent the helicopter to evacuate the wounded while he established communications with his subordinates in the area. As soon as the helicopter completed the mission, General *Truong* quickly took off in complete darkness to fly over the battle area. He personally directed his subordinates in a counterattack and controlled aerial rocket artillery and artillery support. General *Truong's* heroic actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on him and the Army of the Republic of Vietnam.

**IX--SOLDIER'S MEDAL.** By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded posthumously to:

Chief Warrant Officer *Gary C. Nistler*, United States Army, who distinguished himself by truly professional and unselfish performance of duty while serving as aircraft commander during a Military Assistance to Safety and Traffic medical evacuation flight on 4 September 1970 near North Bend, Washington. Warrant Officer *Nistler* voluntarily responded to a request from the Washington State Patrol for a helicopter to evacuate a seriously injured motorist from an accident site located in a narrow valley bordered by 5,000-foot mountains. Disregarding the extremely hazardous flying conditions caused by extreme darkness and adverse weather, Warrant Officer *Nistler* twice attempted to locate the injured motorist. During the second attempt, his helicopter crashed, killing the occupants. Chief Warrant Officer *Nistler* sacrificed his life attempting to save the life of another individual. His brave and truly unselfish performance of duty was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflected the greatest credit on him and the United States Army.

**X--SOLDIER'S MEDAL.** 1. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Sergeant First Class *Jimmy D. Alexander*, United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life on 8 May 1971. On that date while visiting a friend in Newport News, Virginia, Sergeant *Alexander* placed himself in extreme danger while attempting to save the lives of six children trapped in a burning house. Upon arriving at the scene of the fire, he discovered flames and sparks shooting through the roof. Despite intense heat and smoke, which prevented others from entering, Sergeant *Alexander*, without regard for his own safety, entered the burning residence by breaking a rear window. He was immediately hit by the intense heat and heavy smoke, but by feeling along the wall with his hands he was able to find a baby and a small child. With a child in each arm he attempted to work his way out of the house. Due to the thick smoke and intense heat he stumbled, dropping the small child. He felt around the floor trying to locate the child until the heat and smoke were so great he had to leave. He then climbed out a window, still holding the baby. At this time there was an explosion which made it impossible to return to the burning house. Sergeant *Alexander* began mouth-to-mouth resuscitation on the baby in an attempt to revive it and continued his

efforts until they reached the hospital. By risking his life in an attempt to save others, Sergeant First Class *Alexander* displayed extraordinary heroism which marked him as an outstanding individual. By his heroic achievement and humanitarian regard for his fellow man, Sergeant First Class *Alexander* has reflected great credit on himself and the United States Army.

2. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Sergeant First Class *Jerry B. Bieker*, United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life on 23 March 1971 in Kornwestheim, Germany. On that date with complete disregard for his own life and safety, Sergeant *Bieker* took decisive action in attempting to save the life of a fellow soldier who was laying communication wire which became entangled with a high voltage wire, electrocuting him while still in his vehicle. After being apprised of the accident, Sergeant *Bieker* took immediate action and proceeded to the scene of the mishap with equipment for the removal of the electrified vehicle in order to free the victim. Sergeant *Bieker* quickly probed the area to determine the source of the high voltage and the best approach to the burning vehicle. He supervised the movement of the vehicle away from the high voltage wire and supervised the control of the area until further assistance arrived. His timely decision and disregard for his own safety contributed greatly in attempting to save the life of another. His complete devotion to duty was an inspiration to all who observed and was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. By his courageous action and humanitarian regard for his fellow man, Sergeant First Class *Bieker* has reflected great credit on himself and the United States Army.

3. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Sergeant First Class *Rufus F. Cox*, United States Army, who distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous and heroic action on 25 January 1972, while serving as an Assistant Instructor at Mill Creek Grenade Range, United States Army Armor Center Committee Group, Fort Knox, Kentucky. On that date Company E, 18th Battalion, 5th Training Brigade was receiving live grenade training at Mill Creek Grenade Range, the staff of which included Sergeant *Cox*. When a trainee came to Sergeant *Cox's* grenade bay to throw a grenade, he dropped the grenade while attempting to throw it. The grenade rolled to the rear of the pit and Sergeant *Cox* immediately restrained the trainee within the safe confines of the throwing pit. The soldier panicked and began to run out the rear of the throwing pit, but was held and forced to the ground by Sergeant *Cox* just in time to avoid the detonation of the grenade. Sergeant *Cox's* alert professional reaction and cool intrepidity in a dangerous situation are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army. (This award supersedes the Army Commendation Medal awarded to Sergeant *Cox* for heroism on 25 January 1972, by the Commanding General, United States Army Armor Center and Fort Knox, Kentucky, under the provisions of paragraph 7, AR 672-5-1.)

4. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Specialist Four *Dennis Fabry*, United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life on 23 March 1971 in Kornwestheim, Germany. On that date with complete disregard for his own life and safety, Specialist *Fabry* took decisive action in attempting to save the life of a fellow soldier who was laying communication wire which became entangled with a high voltage wire, electrocuting him while still in his vehicle. Arriving at the scene shortly after the mishap, Specialist *Fabry* acted immediately and attached a rope to a forklift and pulled the vehicle from the high voltage line in order to free the victim. He cleared the victim's airway and started mouth-to-mouth resuscitation on the unconscious soldier until medical personnel arrived. Specialist *Fabry* then began closed chest cardiac massage on the man, aided in setting up an oxygen resuscitator, and moving the badly burned patient to the ambulance. Specialist *Fabry's* tenacious and aggressive efforts contributed greatly in attempting to save the life of another. By his courageous action and humanitarian regard for his fellow man and dedication of service to his country, Specialist Four *Fabry* has reflected great credit on himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

5. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Specialist Four *James H. Foley*, United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at the Delta Mendota Canal, west of Los Banos, California, on 9 August 1971. On that date Specialist *Foley* entered the water of the Delta Mendota Canal without regard to his safety, and proceeded to rescue a middle-aged couple, whose vehicle had plunged into the canal and was being swept downstream by the swift current. As the current carried the automobile downstream, Specialist *Foley* aided the two occupants to the bank where his younger brother assisted the victims and rescuers out of the water. At this point, the vehicle, victims, and rescuers had been carried 200 feet downstream by the strong current. The vehicle was later found submerged approximately 650 feet downstream. Specialist *Foley* entered the water without hesitation or concern for his personal safety, saving the lives of the two victims. By his courageous action, humanitarian regard for his fellow man, and dedication of service to his country, Specialist Four *Foley* has reflected great credit on himself and the United States Army.

6. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Sergeant First Class *Robert C. Hoeller*, United States Army, who distinguished himself through exceptionally heroic actions on 5 November 1971 at Rottingen, Federal Republic of Germany. While making a liaison visit to the Gubelstadt Air Field, Sergeant *Hoeller* was present when German authorities requested American assistance at a site of a civil disaster. An old factory building had collapsed, entrapping a large number of employees under tons of debris. Sergeant *Hoeller*, drawing upon his experience and knowledge



as a civilian fireman, took charge of the rescue operation. Crawling into the wreckage, he located a woman who was buried in the debris from her screams for help. Completely disregarding the grave personal danger from the tons of precariously hanging debris, Sergeant *Hoeller* stayed by the woman, delicately removing each piece of wood and stone by hand until it was possible to move the victim to safety and medical attention. Sergeant *Hoeller* had spent over 6 hours in effecting her rescue. German authorities then requested that Sergeant *Hoeller* continue his assistance to them in clearing the remaining disaster area. Sergeant *Hoeller* received the highest praise from German Police and fire authorities for his rescue efforts. Through Sergeant *Hoeller's* labor the life of one victim was snatched from certain death. By his courageous action, humanitarian regard for his fellow man, and dedication of service to his country, Sergeant First Class *Hoeller* has reflected great credit on himself and the United States Army.

7. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Specialist Four *Elliot McDowell*, Infantry, United States Army, Weapons Department, United States Army Infantry School, who distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in the face of extreme danger on 12 April 1971. During a training exercise, an armored, full-tracked vehicle equipped with a flame thrower malfunctioned and burst into flames, trapping two crew members inside. Specialist *McDowell*, with total disregard for his personal safety, sprinted 200 meters carrying a fire extinguisher and, with the help of three other soldiers, managed to bring the flames under control. He then mounted the vehicle and, with the help of two others, rescued the trapped crew men from the still-smoking vehicle. Specialist Four *McDowell's* heroic conduct was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflected great credit on himself and the United States Army.

8. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Specialist Four *Phillip D. Whitson*, United States Army Reserve, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Jefferson Proving Grounds, Madison, Indiana on 3 October 1971. On that date while driving a five-ton tanker loaded with flammable liquid in a military convoy, the brakes of his vehicle failed while descending a dangerous downgrade. While slowing his vehicle, the clutch pressure plate and transmission exploded, sending debris into the cab and injuring the assistant driver. Specialist *Whitson* elected to remain with his vehicle to prevent a collision with a tanker truck he was following which could have caused a fiery holocaust. Specialist *Whitson's* immediate action, without concern for his own safety, set him apart as a soldier of exemplary courage and unswerving devotion to duty. His fortitude, perseverance, and determination through this perilous experience prevented the possible loss of three lives and damage to Government equipment. By his courageous action, humanitarian regard for his fellow man and dedication of service to his country, Specialist Four *Whitson* has reflected great credit on himself and the United States Army Reserve.

**XI. BRONZE STAR MEDAL.** By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 11016, 24 August 1962, a Bronze Star Medal with "V" device for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against hostile forces is awarded to:

Captain *Francis L. Lennon*, Military Intelligence, United States Army, Company B, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces, who distinguished himself by exceptional heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 30 January 1968. On that date a II Corps Tactical Zone Army of the Republic of Vietnam Mobile Strike Force unit and other Mobile Strike Force elements were in danger of colliding while advancing against enemy forces in the city of Pleiku. Realizing the apparent danger of friendly forces colliding because of a lack of coordination, Captain *Lennon* voluntarily crossed the sniper-infested city to insure that proper coordination was accomplished. Upon arrival at the command element of the Army of the Republic of Vietnam unit, he found disorder and casualties suffered by American advisors due to an enemy counterattack. Captain *Lennon* immediately appraised the situation and coordinated the actions of this unit. In the ensuing battle, he twice left positions of relative safety and crawled to exposed positions to assist recovery of friendly wounded. Through his example of fine leadership and bravery while under enemy fire the allied unit stabilized its line and continued the advance to successful completion. Upon return to his unit he voluntarily joined a company whose commander and key Special Forces advisors had been disabled by wounds. Without hesitation he took command of the element and stabilized the confused and relatively leaderless Montagnards, converting them into an effective fighting force. He then led an assault across an open field swept by intense enemy fire. Braving hostile small arms fire and close supporting friendly fires, Captain *Lennon* continually moved up and down the friendly lines, personally exposing himself at times when the advance was in danger of faltering. On at least three separate occasions, Captain *Lennon* personally led charges against an entrenched and fanatical enemy which threatened his advance. Disregarding his personal safety, Captain *Lennon* again exposed himself to hostile fire in order to direct the fire of supporting tanks. On another occasion he observed friendly elements advancing directly into the path of an incoming rocket and risked his life to bring them back to safety. Because of the heroism, dedication to duty, and inspired leadership of Captain *Lennon*, a possible defeat was turned into an overwhelming victory with minimum loss of life to friendly forces, elimination of 54 of the enemy, and capture of a large number of enemy weapons. The heroism displayed by Captain *Lennon* is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army. (This award supersedes the Army Commendation Medal awarded to Captain *Lennon* for heroism displayed on 30 January 1968, as announced in 5th Special Forces Group, 1st Special Forces General Orders Number 308, 1968.)

**XII. AIR MEDAL.** By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 9158, 11 May 1942, as amended by Executive Order 9242-A, 11 September 1942, an Air Medal with "V" device for heroism while participating in aerial flight is awarded by the Department of the Army to:

Major General *Ngo Quang Truong*, Army of the Republic of Vietnam, who distinguished himself by heroism on 26 April 1970 while serving as Commanding General, 1st Infantry Division, Army of the Republic of Vietnam. On that date General *Truong* was conducting a visual reconnaissance mission in response to extensive intelligence reports of imminent enemy attack in an area south of the Demilitarized Zone. Operating swiftly and effectively, he planned the counterattack operation against the enemy forces. At several points he had his helicopter land in order to coordinate the operation despite the heavy concentration of mortar and small arms fire being concentrated upon his position. He requested and controlled supporting naval gunfire and tank fires and conducted constant coordination with ground commanders. Completely disregarding the danger to his life, General *Truong* remained constantly in the midst of the battle, expertly directing his troops and providing encouragement and inspiration to his men. As a result of his personal example, coupled with his keen judgment and tactical ability, the enemy force was routed. General *Truong's* heroic actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on him and the Army of the Republic of Vietnam.

**XIII. AIR MEDAL.** By direction of the President, under the Provisions of Executive Order 9158, 11 May 1942, as amended by Executive Order 9242-A, 11 September 1942, an Air Medal (Numeral Device One) with "V" device for heroism while participating in aerial flight is awarded by the Department of the Army to:

Specialist Four *Gary L. Kroeger*, (then Private First Class), United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroic achievement in combat operations against hostile forces on 21 March 1967 in the Republic of Vietnam. On that date the recovery crew of the 540th Transportation Company received an urgent recovery mission. Without hesitation, they reacted immediately and followed another recovery aircraft to Dak To for final coordination of the recovery mission. Specialist *Kroeger* was serving as the gunner. Upon rendezvous at the recovery site, the landing zone was found to be a bomb crater on top of a small knoll with a security force of sixty personnel on the edge of the bomb crater and the downed aircraft in the center. There was steady small arms fire from three quadrants and a forest fire threatening the area from all sides. After the recovery team was landed it was determined that additional fuel would be required to effect the lift and get it back to Dak To. It was also determined that 60 feet of sling would have to be paid out from the lift ship due to the limited size of the confirmed landing zone and 100-foot trees on all sides. After refueling and returning to the site, the lift ship set up its approach and established a tenuous hover approximately 80 feet above the downed aircraft. The hookup was finally made and the lift attempted. Just as it became obvious that additional fuel burn-off and/or downed aircraft unloading would be required, the ground party frantically waved the lift ship off for fear of its

being hit in an intense surge of small arms fire. The load was unhooked and the lift attempt aborted. Following two more abortive attempts, the recovery crew established themselves at a high, exposed hover and effected the hookup on the fourth attempt in less than 1 hour of elapsed time. Small arms fire was sporadic, yet increasing in intensity as the target presented itself once more. The lift crew brought the sling load to a high hover to clear the trees, utilizing all power available, and gradually inched out of the landing zone in the midst of a hail of hostile fire. Miraculously, the effort succeeded and the load was brought back to Dak To. Throughout the entire effort, the crew of the lift ship demonstrated an outstanding dedication to their duties, a superlative knowledge of the capabilities and limitations of the aircraft, and a selfless disregard for their own personal safety in the face of seemingly certain hostile fire damage and/or destruction. The cool professionalism displayed by Specialist Four *Kroeger* in the face of this dangerous mission was an inspiration to his comrades and reflects great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army.

**XIV--ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL.** By direction of the Secretary of the Army, under the provisions of paragraph 33, AR 672-5-1, the Army Commendation Medal for meritorious service is awarded to:

Sergeant *Carlos A. Melendez Ardines*, \_\_\_\_\_, National Guard, Republic of Panama, July 1970 to December 1971.

Colonel *Ruben S. Urrego Gonzalez*, \_\_\_\_\_, Army of Colombia. January 1971 to December 1971.

Captain *Ngo Quy Hien*, \_\_\_\_\_, Vietnamese Air Force, October 1969 to October 1970.

Lieutenant Colonel *Konrad Kilp*, \_\_\_\_\_, Army of the Federal Republic of Germany. During the period June 1962 to October 1971.

Lieutenant Colonel *Heinz R. Kohler*, \_\_\_\_\_, Air Force, Federal Republic of Germany. During the period July 1969 to August 1971.

Major *Nguyen Van Lac*, \_\_\_\_\_, Army of the Republic of Vietnam. During the period October 1970 to August 1971.

Sergeant *Ignacio R. Martins*, \_\_\_\_\_, Army of the Republic of Argentina. January 1971 to January 1972.

Major *Nguyen Van Nghia*, \_\_\_\_\_, Vietnamese Air Force. October 1969 to September 1970.

Lieutenant Colonel *Shinichiro Ohokachi*, \_\_\_\_\_, Japan Ground Self Defense Force. December 1970 to September 1971.

Colonel *Carlos A. Pardo Pinzon*, \_\_\_\_\_, Army of Colombia. January 1971 to December 1971.

**XV--LEGION OF MERIT.** So much of section VI, General Orders No. 50, Department of the Army, 8 September 1970, as pertains to award of the Legion of Merit (Degree of Officer) to Lieutenant General *Nguyen Van La*, Armed Forces of the Republic of Vietnam, for meritorious services during the period March 1968 to March 1969 is revoked.

**XVI--BRONZE STAR MEDAL.** So much of section XV, General Orders No. 31, Department of the Army, 1 July 1971, as pertains to award of the Bronze Star Medal with "V" device to Major General *Nguyen Van Hieu*, \_\_\_\_\_, Army of the Republic of Vietnam, for heroism on 14 October 1969 is revoked.

By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

Official:

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

BRUCE PALMER, JR.  
*General, U.S. Army*  
*Acting Chief of Staff.*

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