

GENERAL ORDERS

No. 43

HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, DC, 12 September 1974

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 (Posthumous) 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 Congress to:



Staff Sergeant *Hammett L. Bowen, Jr.*, United States Army, who distinguished himself on 27 June 1969 while serving as a platoon sergeant in Company C, 2d Battalion, 14th Infantry, 25th Infantry Division, during combat operations in Binh Duong Province, Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant *Bowen's* platoon was advancing on a reconnaissance mission into enemy-controlled terrain when it came under the withering cross fire of small arms and grenades from an enemy ambush force. Sergeant *Bowen* placed heavy suppressive fire on the enemy positions and ordered his men to fall back. As the platoon was moving back, an enemy grenade was thrown amid Sergeant *Bowen* and three of his men. Sensing the danger to his comrades, Sergeant *Bowen* shouted a warning to his men and hurled himself on the grenade, absorbing the explosion with his body while saving the lives of his fellow soldiers. Sergeant *Bowen's* extraordinary courage and concern for his men at the cost of his own life served as an inspiration to his comrades and are in the highest traditions of the military service and the United States Army.



GO 43

By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

Official:

VERNE L. BOWERS

Major General, United States Army
The Adjutant General

FRED C. WEYAND

General, United States Army
Vice Chief of Staff

DISTRIBUTION:

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