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THE HONORABLE GENERAL ROBERT W. PORTER, JR.

The death of General Robert W. Porter, Jr., on April 22, 2000, at the Martha Jefferson Hospital in Charlottesville, Virginia, is announced with deep regret. His last duty assignment was as Commander, United States Army Southern Command in Quarry Heights, the Canal Zone.

General Porter was an officer of the highest ideals. His courage, sound judgement, and leadership produced military achievements of great value to his country. General Porter's military career spanned 38 years during which he served with distinction in a variety of command and staff positions. With his passing, the nation has lost a faithful, valiant servant, and the United States Army, a great commander.

General Porter was born in Alma, Nebraska, April 29, 1908. After graduating from high school, he entered the United States Military Academy July 1, 1926, graduated in 1930, and eventually saw duty on four different continents during his career in the United States Army.

General Porter served with distinction during his 38-year career in the Army. He began his career as a Cavalry officer, fought with the 1st Infantry Division in North Africa and Sicily, and the II Army Corps in Italy during World War II. Returning to the War Department in 1945, he served as a Strategic Planner, and later became the Executive Officer to the Under Secretary of the Army at a time when the Under Secretary was charged with the administration of military government in both Germany and Japan.

After graduating from the National War College in 1950, General Porter held a variety of positions to include: Commander, 2d Armored Cavalry Regiment in Germany; Deputy G-3, Allied Land Forces Central Europe; Chief of Staff, X Corps in Korea; member of the National Security Council Planning Board; Commanding General, Third Armored Division in Europe; United States Representative to the Permanent Deputies Group, Central Treaty Organization; and Commanding General, 1st United States Army. General Porter concluded his distinguished career as the Commander in Chief (CINC), United States Army Southern Command in Quarry Heights, the Canal Zone.

General Porter's awards and decorations include: the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit (one Oak Leaf Cluster), and the Bronze Star Medal.

General Porter is survived by his four children Robert W. Porter III, Henrik P. Porter, Celia T. Porter, and Susan T. Porter.

Louis Caldera

Secretary of the Army

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