

GENERAL ORDERS

No. 2016-03



HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, DC, 23 February 2016

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS

By direction of the President, under the provisions of an Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918, and amended 25 July 1963, the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action is awarded to:

Private First Class Edward G. Halcomb for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed enemy from 20 August 1950 to 19 October 1950, on the Korean Peninsula. Wounded, captured and imprisoned in Seoul after the Battle of Anui, Private First Class Halcomb, despite his junior rank, assumed the responsibility of chief medic, caring for the American Prisoners of War. He supervised nine other medics and cared for the most severely wounded, while exposing himself to rampant diseases afflicting the starving and dying patients. When the enemy retreated from Seoul, he alone volunteered to stay with the weakest prisoners who were forced to walk with the main column on a grueling 120 mile march to Pyongyang. By placing himself with the most disabled, Private First Class Halcomb increased the probability of his own execution as the enemy guards executed Soldiers whose physical condition became a burden or slowed the pace. Once the column reached Pyongyang, he helped plan and conduct a successful, daring escape with four other Soldiers from the heavily guarded city. He demonstrated persistent courage, compassion and self-sacrifice in the face of enemy brutality and starvation. Private First Class Halcomb's actions are in keeping with the finest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the 24th Infantry Division and the United States Army.

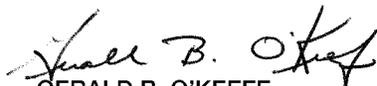
[DAPE-ZXM]

GO 2016-03

By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

MARK A. MILLEY
General, United States Army
Chief of Staff

Official:


GERALD B. O'KEEFE
Administrative Assistant to the
Secretary of the Army

DISTRIBUTION:

This publication is available in electronic media only and is intended for the Active Army, the Army National Guard/Army National Guard of the United States, and the U.S. Army Reserve.