GENERAL ORDERS No. 59

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C., 2 August 1951

AWARD OF THE MEDAL OF HONOR

By direction of the President, under the act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (WD Bul. 43, 1918), 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 the Congress to the following-named officer:

Lieutenant Colonel *Don C. Faith, Jr.*, Infantry, United States Army, commanding 1st Battalion, 32d Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division, distinguished himself conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity in action above and beyond the call of duty in the area of the Chosin Reservoir, vicinity Hagaruri in Northern Korea, during the period 27 November to 1 December 1950. When the enemy launched a fanatical attack against his battalion, Colonel *Faith* unhesitatingly exposed himself to heavy enemy fire as he moved about directing the action. When the enemy penetrated the positions, Colonel *Faith* personally led counterattacks to restore the position. During an attack by his battalion to effect a junction with another United States unit, Colonel *Faith* reconnoitered the route for, and personally directed, the first elements of his command across the ice-covered reservoir, and then directed the movement of his vehicles which were loaded with wounded until all of his command had passed through the enemy fire. Having completed this, he crossed the reservoir. Assuming command of the force his unit had joined, he was given the mission of attacking to join friendly elements to the south. Colonel *Faith*, although physically exhausted in the bitter cold, organized and launched an attack which was soon stopped by enemy fire. He ran forward under enemy small-arms and automatic-weapons fire, got his men on their feet, and personally led the fire attack as it blasted its way through the enemy ring. As they came to a hairpin curve, enemy fire from a road block again pinned the column down. Colonel *Faith* organized a group of men and directed their attack on the enemy positions on the right flank. He than placed himself at the head of another group of men and, in the face of direct enemy fire, led an attack on the enemy road block, firing his pistol and throwing grenades. When he had reached a position approximately 30 yards from the road block, he was mortally wounded, but continued to direct the attack until the road block was overrun. Throughout the 5 days of action, Colonel *Faith* gave no thought to his safety and did not spare himself. His presence each time in the position of greatest danger was an inspiration to his men. Also, the damage he personally inflicted firing from his position at the head of his men was of material assistance on several occasions. Colonel *Faith's* outstanding gallantry and noble self-sacrifice, above and beyond the call of duty, reflect the highest honor on him and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army. (This award supersedes the award of the Silver Star (first Oak-Leaf Cluster) to Lieutenant Colonel *Faith*, for gallantry in action on 27 November 1950, published in General Orders 32, Headquarters X Corps, 23 February 1951.)

This general order will be read to all troops and will be posted conspicuously on the bulletin boards in each unit area.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

J. LAWTON COLLINS
Chief of Staff, United States Army

OFFICIAL:
WM. E. BERGIN
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

AGO 330B

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