GENERAL ORDERS
No. 63

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 enlisted man:

Private First Class *William Thompson* (Service No.), Infantry, United States Army, a member of Company M, 24th Infantry Regiment, distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty in action against the enemy near Haman, Korea, on 6 August 1950. While his platoon was reorganizing under cover of darkness, fanatical enemy forces in overwhelming strength launched a surprise attack on the unit. Private *Thompson* set up his machine gun in the path of the onslaught and swept the enemy with withering fire, pinning them down momentarily and thus permitting the remainder of his platoon to withdraw to a more tenable position. Although hit repeatedly by grenade fragments and small-arms fire, he resisted all efforts of his comrades to induce him to withdraw, steadfastly remained at his machine gun, and continued to deliver deadly, accurate fire until mortally wounded by an enemy grenade. Private *Thompson's* dauntless courage and gallant self-sacrifice reflect the highest credit on himself and uphold the esteemed traditions of the military service.

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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 334B

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