GENERAL ORDERS No. 37

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C., 7 *June 1955*

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 *Charles H. Barker*, , (then Private), Infantry, United States Army, a member of Company K, 17th Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division, distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry and indomitable courage above and beyond the call of duty in action against the enemy near Sokkogae, Korea, on 4 June 1953. While participating in a combat patrol engaged in screening an approach to "Pork-Chop Outpost," Private Barker and his companions surprised and engaged an enemy group digging emplacements on the slope. Totally unprepared, the hostile troops sought cover. After ordering Private *Barker* and a comrade to lay down a base of fire, the patrol leader maneuvered the remainder of the platoon to a vantage point on higher ground. Private *Barker* moved to an open area firing his rifle and hurling grenades on the hostile positions. As enemy action increased in volume and intensity, mortar bursts fell on friendly positions, ammunition was in critical supply, and the platoon was ordered to withdraw into a perimeter defense preparatory to moving back to the outpost. Voluntarily electing to cover the retrograde movement, he gallantly maintained a defense and was last seen in close hand-to-hand combat with the enemy. Private *Barker's* unflinching courage, consummate devotion to duty, and supreme sacrifice enabled the patrol to complete the mission and effect an orderly withdrawal to friendly lines, reflecting lasting glory upon himself and upholding the highest traditions of the military service.

TAGO 5679B—June 310488°—55

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:

M. B. RIDGWAY,
General, United States Army,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:
JOHN A. KLEIN,
Major General, United States Army,
The Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION:

Active Army: A.

To be distributed on a need-to-know basis to all units and headquarters down to and including companies and batteries and to units and headquarters of comparable size and responsibility.

NG and USAR: B.

To be distributed on a need-to-know basis to all units and headquarters down to and including separate battalions (administrative) and to units and headquarters of comparable size and responsibility.

TAGO 5679B

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