

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 61

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C., 17 October 1955

	Section
LEGION OF MERIT—Awards.....	I, II
SOLDIER'S MEDAL—Awards.....	III
BRONZE STAR MEDAL—Awards.....	IV, V
AIR MEDAL—Award.....	VI
COMMENDATION RIBBON WITH METAL PENDANT—Awards.....	VII

I. LEGION OF MERIT. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 20 July 1942 (sec. III, WD Bul. 40, 1942) and Executive Order 10600, 15 March 1955 (sec. I, DA Bul. 8, 7 April 1955), the Legion of Merit for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service during the periods indicated is awarded to the following-named officers:

- Vice Admiral *Arthur O. Davis*, United States Navy. 1 November 1953 to 1 October 1955.
- Lieutenant Colonel *Monroe J. Hagood*, Infantry, United States Army, 1 June 1952 to 27 July 1954.
- Captain *Morris L. Murray*, Military Intelligence, United States Army Reserve. 19 August 1950 to 4 April 1955.

II. LEGION OF MERIT. 1. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 20 July 1942 (sec. III, WD Bul. 40, 1942) and Executive Order 10600, 15 March 1955 (sec. I, DA Bul. 8, 7 April 1955), the Legion of Merit, in the Degree of Commander, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service is awarded to the following-named officer:

General *S. M. Shrinagch*, Indian Army.

2. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 20 July 1942 (sec. III, WD Bul. 40, 1942), and Executive Order 10600, 15 March 1955 (sec. I, DA Bul. 8, 7 April 1955), the Legion of Merit, in the Degree of Officer, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service during the periods indicated is awarded to the following-named officers:

- Lieutenant Colonel *Martin F. Alberto*, Colombian Army. 18 May 1951 to 23 November 1954.
- Brigadier General *Moon Yong Ohae*, Republic of Korea Army. 21 April 1953 to 27 July 1954.
- Major General *Ah-phou Golpira*, Iranian Gendarmerie. 20 August 1953 to 15 July 1954.
- Brigadier General *Mozzafar Malek*, Iranian Gendarmerie. 6 July 1953 to 15 July 1954.
- Major General *Yun Tohi Waang*, Republic of Korea Army. 25 June 1950 to 27 April 1954.

3. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 20 July 1942 (sec. III, WD Bul. 40, 1942) and Executive Order 10600, 15 March 1955 (sec. I, DA Bul. 8, 7 April 1955), the Legion of Merit, in the Degree of Legionnaire, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service during the periods indicated is awarded to the following-named officers:

- Colonel *Ah Rozavi*, Iranian Gendarmerie. 24 April 1951 to 15 July 1954.
- Colonel *Kang Lee Sa*, Infantry, Republic of Korea Army. 27 November 1952 to 29 April 1954.
- Colonel *Shim Heung Sun*, Republic of Korea Army. 5 July 1952 to 27 July 1954.

III. SOLDIER'S MEDAL. By direction of the President, under the act of Congress approved 2 July 1926 (WD Bul. 8, 1926), the Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy on the dates indicated is awarded to the following named officers and enlisted men:

Corporal *Melvin G. Burchett*, United States Army, a member of the 307th Airborne Engineer Battalion, distinguished himself by heroism at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, on 6 October 1954. While driving a jeep on an inspection tour of parking lots in the new division area at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, he observed a C-119 aircraft crash into an open area near a group of new buildings. Corporal *Burchett* arriving at the scene of the crash, and with complete disregard for his personal safety entered the flaming wreckage, he assisted in rescue operations of injured personnel in the aircraft and upon discovering a broken fuel line which was feeding gasoline to the fire, plugged it up to prevent a greater fire. After this action Corporal *Burchett* assisted in fighting the fire. The prompt and courageous action of Corporal *Burchett* undoubtedly saved lives and reflects distinct credit on himself and the military service.

First Lieutenant *Francis J. Davis*, Signal Corps, United States Army, Company A, 10th Ordnance Battalion (Special Weapons Support), distinguished himself by heroism on 19 January 1955 at a Special Weapons Assembly Building, White Sands Proving Ground, New Mexico. When an electrical fire was discovered in a live high explosive rocket warhead, Lieutenant *Davis* took steps to discover and eliminate the cause of the fire. Without regard to personal safety, Lieutenant *Davis* worked to discover the source of the fire, not knowing at what moment the high explosive might detonate. The lack of personal concern in the face of great danger, the outstanding technical ability, and presence of mind demonstrated by this young officer has earned him the respect and confidence of all his associates. Lieutenant *Davis'* outstanding performance reflects great credit on himself and is in keeping with the high standards of performance in the United States Army.

Corporal *James D. Dobson*, Military Police Corps, United States Army, a member of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 503rd Military Police Battalion, distinguished himself by heroism on 30 April 1955. Corporal *Dobson* was sitting at home when he was startled by the sound of crashing metal. Hastening downstairs into the street he saw that a car had just plunged over the sea wall into the deep waters of the bay. Without hesitation or regard to his personal safety Corporal *Dobson* jumped into the deep waters of the bay and began to rescue the driver, the only occupant of the car, who at this time was dazed almost to the point of unconsciousness. Corporal *Dobson* removed the driver from the car just as it was sinking into the bottom of the bay 16 feet below. The prompt and courageous action of Corporal *Dobson* undoubtedly saved the life of the driver and reflects distinct credit on himself and the military service.

First Lieutenant *William S. Ellerman*, Ordnance Corps, Company A, 10th Ordnance Battalion (Special Weapons Support), United States Army distinguished himself by heroism on 19 January 1955 at a Special Weapons Assembly Building, White Sands Proving Ground, New Mexico. When an electrical fire was discovered in a live high explosive rocket warhead, Lieutenant *Ellerman* took steps to discover and eliminate the cause of the fire. Without regard to personal safety, Lieutenant *Ellerman* worked to discover the source of the fire, not knowing at what moment the high explosive might detonate. The lack of personal concern in the face of great danger, the outstanding technical ability, and presence of mind demonstrated by this young officer has earned him the respect and confidence of his associates. Lieutenant *Ellerman's* outstanding

performance reflects great credit on himself and is in keeping with the high standards of performance in the United States Army.

Lieutenant Colonel *Edward A. Hallett*, Corps of Engineers, United States Army, 807th Airborne Engineer Battalion, distinguished himself by heroism at Fort Bragg, North Carolina on 8 October 1954. While inspecting parking lots in the new division area at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, he observed a C-119 aircraft crash into an open area near a group of new buildings. Colonel *Hallett* arriving at the scene of the crash, and with complete disregard for his personal safety entered the flaming wreckage. He began fighting the fire with a fire extinguisher and putting out the fire on and around a soldier pinned in the wreckage. After the fire extinguisher played out, he began rescue work which resulted in freeing the soldier, who was pinned between part of the wreckage and a large container. After this action Colonel *Hallett* repeatedly entered the burning wreckage to assist in fighting the fire. The prompt and courageous action of Colonel *Hallett* undoubtedly save the life of the trapped soldier and reflects distinct credit on himself and the military service.

Private First Class *Eugene Lane*, Signal Corps, United States Army, a member of Company B, Signal Overseas Communications Battalion, 8235th Army Unit, distinguished himself by heroism in the waters off Tsukishima, Japan, on 6 May 1955. Private *Lane*, while proceeding by vehicle to the Transmitter Station at Tsukishima with two other enlisted men, heard a whistle and noticed the guard at the Transmitter Station gesturing and pointing toward the ocean. Upon arrival at the site indicated by the guard, Private *Lane* saw two Japanese fishermen, whose boat had overturned in the rough sea, desperately trying to stay afloat in the choppy water. Realizing that the men could not swim and were near exhaustion, Private *Lane* and another enlisted man immediately dove into the dangerous water and swam to the aid of the drowning men. By assisting the fishermen to keep their heads above water, Private *Lane* and his companion succeeded in bringing the two fishermen to the sea wall where others awaited to assist them. Due to the low tide at the moment and the extreme height of the sea wall, the men had to be dragged out of the water from shore by means of poles and ropes. The cool and courageous action of Private *Lane* resulted in the saving of the life of a Japanese fisherman at considerable risk to his own, reflecting great credit on himself and the military service.

Private First Class *James A. Lotson, Jr.*, Transportation Corps, United States Army, a member of the 48d Transportation Company (Light Truck), 89th Transportation Battalion (Truck), distinguished himself by heroism on 12 April 1955. At approximately 0900 hours, Private *Lotson*, a truck driver, observed a fire burning around the gas tank of his vehicle. At this time Private *Lotson's* vehicle was parked immediately beside an ammunition storage quonset and was loaded with 500 rounds of 60-mm mortar ammunition. The ammunition storage quonset, one of seven similar quonsets in the immediate vicinity, contained 50 tons of ammunition. Private *Lotson* immediately tried to extinguish the fire with sand but to no avail. Realizing the danger to the ammunition stored in the seven quonsets, Private *Lotson*, without regard to his personal safety, entered his vehicle and drove it approximately 100 yards away from the area and then ran for cover. The ammunition on the vehicle then exploded, completely demolishing the vehicle. Private *Lotson's* heroic action, in addition to preventing the loss of approximately 350 tons of ammunition stored in the quonsets very possibly saved the lives of American soldiers and Korean service personnel working in the close vicinity.

Corporal *Billie Nyman, Jr.*, United States Army, a member of Augmentation Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2d Transportation Terminal Command C, 2d Army Unit, distinguished himself by heroism at Kurihama, Japan, on 31 May 1955. While standing fire watch on the pier at Kurihama Outport, Corporal *Nyman* saw a small Japanese boy lose his footing and start to slip off the dock into the sea. Corporal *Nyman* made a grab for the youngster as he was falling, but was unable to hold on to him. Without hesitation, the gallant soldier plunged into the rough surf fully clothed and swam to his rescue, but the little lad was swept approximately 80 feet from the pier by a vicious undertow and had gone down twice before he could be reached. Quickly bringing the child to the surface, Corporal *Nyman* towed him to the safety of the shore where they were pulled from the water and on to the pier by spectators at the scene. Corporal *Nyman's* prompt and courageous actions saved the life of the young boy, reflecting utmost credit on himself and upholding the honored traditions of the military service.

Corporal *Ivory Rhodes*, United States Army, distinguished himself by heroism in the vicinity of Pusan, Korea, on 8 April 1955. On that day, a gasoline tractor-trailer with a defective float on the pump pipes was brought into the motor pool for repairs. While repairing the defective mechanism, the driver of the vehicle was overcome by gasoline fumes and lost consciousness in the tank. The assistant driver who had entered the tank to rescue the unconscious man had also been overcome by the fumes. Although he realized the risk of his own life, Corporal *Rhodes* entered the fume-filled gasoline tank through the narrow opening at the top in an attempt to rescue his two comrades. Through resolute effort, Corporal *Rhodes* succeeded in rescuing the assistant driver and was himself nearly overcome by fumes. The intrepid actions of Corporal *Rhodes* resulted in the saving of his comrade's life, reflecting great credit on himself and upholding the highest traditions of the military service.

Private First Class *Ramon E. Wallace*, Signal Corps, United States Army, a member of Company B, Signal Overseas Communications Battalion, 8235th Army Unit, distinguished himself by heroism in the waters off Tsukishima, Japan, on 6 May 1955. While riding in a vehicle near the shoreline, Private *Wallace* heard the guard from the Signal Overseas Communications Battalion Transmitter Station whistle, then saw him point to the ocean. As Private *Wallace* came nearer, he saw an overturned boat approximately 80 yards offshore, and two Japanese fishermen who had been thrown into the turbulent water. One man was clinging to an upright bamboo pole beyond the seawall, and the other, apparently unable to swim and near exhaustion, was struggling to keep afloat. Without hesitation, Private *Wallace* plunged into the rough surf fully clothed and, despite the danger of being pulled under by the vicious undercurrent, went to the aid of the floundering man. Observing the difficulty he encountered in swimming through the choppy water, a companion went to his assistance and helped bring the drowning man to the shore. Since the seawall was approximately 10 feet from the water, it was not possible to rescue the man immediately. After comrades obtained and threw him a rope, Private *Wallace* secured the fisherman clinging to the bamboo pole, and then, all four men were pulled to safety. Private *Wallace's* quick thinking and intrepid actions were instrumental in saving the lives of two Japanese nationals, reflecting utmost credit on himself and upholding the esteemed traditions of the military service.

Captain *Victor L. Wegard*, Adjutant General's Corps, United States Army, a member of the Comptroller Section, Headquarters Korean Communica-

mons Zobe, distinguished himself by an act of heroism in New York City, New York, on 6 January 1955, while assigned to Overseas Replacement Station, 0021st Service Unit, Personnel Center, Fort Lewis, Washington. While walking down 57th Street in New York City, Captain *Wegard* observed a window washer dangling by one strap of his safety belt, the other strap had broken, below a closed window on the fifth floor of an office building. No attempt was being made to help the man who was in grave danger of falling at any minute. Captain *Wegard* rushed into the building, took an unattended elevator to the fifth floor, hurriedly found the unopened window, and instructed one of the office employees, who was unaware of the accident, to hang on to his thighs while he pulled the window washer to safety. Disregarding his personal safety, Captain *Wegard*, supported by the office employee, leaned out of the window, grasped the window washer under the arms, and pulled him to safety. Captain *Wegard's* decisive and courageous action prevented the certain death of the victim of the accident and reflects great credit on himself and the military service.

Master Sergeant *Murphy Williams*, United States Army, distinguished himself by heroism in Pusan Harbor, Korea, on 19 April 1955. While serving as Fire Chief, Station No. 1, 8075th Engineer Firefighting Company, Sergeant *Williams* and his company responded within minutes after a report of fire aboard the SS *Audrey II*, loaded with HE bombs, incendiary clusters and heat sensitive explosives, berthed in Pusan Harbor. Firefighting operations were hampered by intense clouds of billowing smoke. Fully aware of the danger involved, Sergeant *Williams* entered the smoke-logged, ammunition-laden hatch to ascertain the location and extent of the blaze. He immediately saw an ignited parachute flare wedged between the hull and the dunnage, out of reach of the fire hose and imminently threatening to detonate the lethal cargo. Quickly seizing the burning flare with his bare hands, he carried it to the center of the hold where the water hose could extinguish it. Sergeant *Williams's* quick thinking and intrepid actions averted a major catastrophe with potential loss of lives and property, reflecting utmost credit on himself and upholding the esteemed traditions of the military service.

IV..BRONZE STAR MEDAL. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 9419, 4 February 1944 (sec. II, WD Bul. 3, 1944), a Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States during the period indicated is awarded to the following-named officer:

First Lieutenant *Grant R. Rogan*, Infantry, United States Army. 14 October 1952 to 9 May 1953.

V..BRONZE STAR MEDAL. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 9419, 4 February 1944 (sec. II, WD Bul. 3, 1944), a Bronze Star Medal with "V" device for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States on the date indicated is awarded to the following-named officer:

Lieutenant *Ludwik B. Zwolanski*, VX Infantry, Australian Army, a member of the 3d Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, distinguished himself by heroism in action against the enemy in Korea, on 14 August 1952. Lieutenant *Zwolanski* was leading a platoon in an assault on a well-fortified enemy position. Advancing toward its objective, the platoon encountered intense enemy mortar fire and was forced to seek cover. Determined not to be thwarted by this adverse turn of events, with disregard for his personal safety, Lieutenant

Zwolanski left his position of cover and moved forward in the face of the hail of hostile fire, shouting words of encouragement to his men. Inspired by this spontaneous display of courage and fortitude, the platoon quickly rallied about him and resumed the attack with renewed vigor and spirit, successfully reaching its objective. The confidence, resolute leadership, and unyielding devotion to duty exhibited by Lieutenant *Zwolanski* during this action reflect great credit on himself and the military service.

VI. AIR MEDAL. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 9158, 11 May 1942 (WD Bul. 25, 1942), as amended by Executive Order 9242-A, 11 September 1942 (WD Bul. 49, 1942), the Air Medal for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight during the period indicated is awarded by the Department of the Army to the following-named enlisted man:

Sergeant First Class *Walter D. Huber, Sr.*, Infantry (then Quartermaster Corps), United States Army. 10 September 1950 to 4 February 1951. (This award supersedes the previous award of the Commendation Ribbon with Metal Pendant for meritorious service during the period 10 September 1950 to 4 February 1951, as announced in General Orders No. 45, Headquarters XVIII Airborne Corps, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, dated 7 April 1955.)

VII. COMMENDATION RIBBON WITH METAL PENDANT. 1. By direction of the Secretary of the Army, under the provisions of paragraph 20, AR 600-45, the Commendation Ribbon with Metal Pendant for meritorious service during the period indicated is awarded to the following-named enlisted man:

Sergeant *Walter F. Walker*, United States Army. 23 June to 15 July 1955.

2. By direction of the Secretary of the Army, under the provisions of paragraph 20, AR 600-45, the Commendation Ribbon with Metal Pendant for meritorious achievement on the dates indicated is awarded to the following-named officers and enlisted men:

Private First Class *Robert J. Ford*, Infantry, United States Army. 12 April 1955.

Sergeant *Bobby L. Jones*, Quartermaster Corps, United States Army. 8 June 1955.

Sergeant First Class *Bobby P. McGovern*, United States Army. 8 February 1955.

Captain *Lyon C. Orser*, Quartermaster Corps, United States Army. 8 June 1955.

First Lieutenant *Bradley O. Reed*, Ordnance Corps, United States Army. 24 March 1955.

Corporal *George P. Zonoff*, United States Army. 23 September 1954.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

MAXWELL D. TAYLOR,
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.