GENERAL ORDERS No. 14

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C., *19 April 1956*

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I..DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (WD Bul. 43, 1918), the Distinguished Service Medal (first Oak Leaf Cluster) for exceptionally meritorious and distinguished service in a position of great responsibility during the period indicated is awarded to the following-named officer:

Brigadier General *John W. Bowen*, , United States Army. 30 June 1953 to 27 April 1956.

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. 3, 7 April 1955), the Legion of Merit, in the Degree of Commander, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service during the periods indicated is awarded to the following-named officers:

General *Jose A. Cortese*, Army of Uruguay. March 1955 to 17 January 1956.

Major General *Enrique Indacochea G.*, Peruvian Army. February 1954 to February 1956.

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. 3, 7 April 1955), the Legion of Merit, in the Degree of Officer, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service during the period indicated is awarded to the following-named officer:

Brigadier General *Jean L. Boyer*, French Army. 14 November 1951 to 31 December 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. 3, 7 April 1955), the Legion of Merit in the Degree of Legionnaire, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service during the period indicated is awarded to the following-named officer:

Lieutenant Colonel *Rodolfo Cerreto*, Italian Army. 16 July 1951 to 10 September 1955.

III..SOLDIER'S MEDAL. By direction of the President, under the provisions of 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:

Specialist Third Class *Lee L. Bean*, , Artillery, United States Army, on duty with First Composite Service Unit, distinguished himself by heroism near Bucknerville, Okinawa, on 28 April 1955. Following the crash of a United States Air Force aircraft, Specialist *Bean* voluntarily, without hesita-

tion and without regard to the great personal danger to himself, proceeded into the flaming wreckage in an effort to ascertain the possibility of survivors and, if any, to attempt rescue. The aircraft fuel tanks had been destroyed and a vast amount of gasoline was burning with intense heat in the crash area. Oxygen tanks and other inflammable components of the plane were exploding intermittently. Several burning bodies were removed from the wreckage and the flames extinguished before it could be determined that there were no survivors. Only after it was clear that no further assistance could be rendered did Specialist *Bean* retire to a point of safety. Specialist *Bean's* fortitude and courageous action in the face of extreme personal danger reflects the highest credit on himself and the United States Army.

Private First Class *Howard Bennett* , Artillery, United States Army, distinguished himself by heroism in Gaston County, North Carolina on 26 June 1955. While lying on Horse Shoe Bend Beach on the Catawba River Private *Bennett* heard the screams of a young girl who had been wading in the river and was being swept away by the swiftly flowing water. Private *Bennett* swam to her aid and returned her to the bank. Upon learning that her younger sister had been with her Private *Bennett* unhesitatingly returned to the river and repeatedly swam and dived in an effort to locate the other girl. He was nearing exhaustion but disregarded his own danger and continued his underwater search. Though unsuccessful in this endeavor Private *Bennett's* prompt and courageous action reflects credit on himself and the military service.

First Lieutenant *Richard Castle*, , Transportation Corps, United States Army, on duty with the First Composite Service Unit, distinguished himself by heroism near Bucknerville, Okinawa, on 28 April 1955. Following the crash of a United States Air Force aircraft, Lieutenant *Castle* voluntarily, without hesitation and without regard to the great personal danger to himself, proceeded into the flaming wreckage in an effort to ascertain the possibility of survivors and, if any, to attempt rescue. The aircraft fuel tanks had been destroyed and a vast amount of gasoline was burning with intense heat in the crash area. Oxygen tanks and other inflammable components of the plane were exploding intermittently. Several burning bodies were removed from the wreckage and the flames extinguished before it could be determined that there were no survivors. Only after it was clear that no further assistance could be rendered did Lieutenant *Castle* retire to a point of safety. Lieutenant *Castle's* fortitude and courageous action in the face of extreme personal danger reflects the highest credit on himself and the United States Army.

Sergeant First Class *Harry E. Chase, Jr.*, , Ordnance Corps, United States Army, on duty with the First Composite Service Unit, distinguished himself by heroism near Bucknerville, Okinawa, on 28 April 1955. Following the crash of a United States Air Force aircraft, Sergeant *Chase* voluntarily, without hesitation and without regard to the great personal danger to himself, proceeded into the flaming wreckage in an effort to ascertain the possibility of survivors and, if any, to attempt rescue. The aircraft fuel tanks had been destroyed and a vast amount of gasoline was burning with intense heat in the crash area. Oxygen tanks and other inflammable components of the plane were exploding intermittently. Several burning bodies were removed from the wreckage and the flames extinguished before it could be determined that there were no survivors. Only after it was clear that no further assistance could be rendered did Sergeant *Chase* retire to a point of safety. Sergeant *Chase's* for-

titude and courageous action in the face of extreme personal danger reflects the highest credit on himself and the United States Army.

Master Sergeant *Francis M. Gartland*, , Artillery, United States Army, a member of Battery B, 51st AAA Battalion distinguished himself by heroism at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on 17 November 1955. While supervising the removal of windstorm debris from the battery area, Sergeant *Gartland* noted that a member of his detail was in contact with an electric power line carrying 2,300 volts and was being electrocuted. Sergeant *Gartland* immediately, grabbed the victim with the full knowledge that physical contact endangered his own life. Sergeant *Gartland* freed his comrade from the wire and applied artificial respiration. Sergeant *Gartland's* prompt and intrepid action prevented the certain death of a comrade, reflecting utmost credit on himself and the military service.

Specialist Third Class *James F. Hatcher*, , Corps of Engineers, United States Army, distinguished himself by heroism at Geyserville, California, on 22 December 1955. Upon learning of the plight of two children marooned in a house in the flood waters of the Russian River, Specialist *Hatcher* voluntarily jumped from the helicopter on which he was crew chief to effect their rescue with full knowledge that he could not be rescued if he were swept away in the flood. The helicopter could not land on the house nor could it hover in the immediate vicinity because of trees and power lines but could hover only in a spot approximately 100 yards away. Alternately wading and swimming through the debris filled and raging current, Specialist *Hatcher* reached the house. Placing one of the stranded children on his back and holding the other he made his way back to the helicopter. The heroism and selfless devotion to duty reflect great credit on Specialist *Hatcher* and the military service.

Specialist Third Class *Howard G. Kuni*, , Corps of Engineers, United States Army, distinguished himself by heroism near Manteca, California, on 28 December 1955. During the height of the flood in northern California the helicopter of which Specialist *Kuni* was crew chief, was called upon to rescue a man who was marooned on a small plot of ground. Upon arriving at the scene the helicopter hovered low over the water but could not get close to the island because of trees. The man was dazed and exhausted from 3 days of exposure and unable to help himself or understand instructions being shouted to him from the helicopter. The swift and turbulent water was rapidly washing away the little high ground that was left. Though darkness was fast closing in and the water was deep, icy cold, and full of debris, Specialist *Kuni* voluntarily plunged into the stream in the full knowledge that if he was swept away his own rescue was impossible. He reached the stranded man and started back. The victim was so weak and helpless Specialist *Kuni* had to hold him afloat while swimming through the swift current but succeeded in getting back to the helicopter and into the cabin. The courageous action and selfless devotion to duty displayed by Specialist *Kuni* reflect great credit on himself and are in keeping with the high traditions of the military service.

Private First Class *Reginald A. Layoff, Jr.*, , United States Army, while on leave en route from assignment in Korea to assignment at Fort Carson, Colorado, distinguished himself by heroism on 18 November 1955 when the civilian aircraft in which he was a passenger crashed and burned approximately 1 mile south of Boeing Field, Seattle, Washington. Although Private *Layoff* had received burns and injuries when he escaped from the airplane, he unhesitatingly and with no thought for his own safety helped to smother the flames envel-

oping a soldier whose clothing and hair were ablaze. Private *Layoff* then unsuccessfully attempted to assist another soldier extricate two bodies trapped in the flaming wreckage. The lack of personal concern in the face of great danger and the presence of mind demonstrated by Private *Layoff* in assisting in the rescue of his fellow passengers reflect credit on himself and the military service.

Private First Class *Abraham Malaster*, , Ordnance Corps, United States Army, a member of 9361st Technical Service Unit, distinguished himself by heroism at Texarkana, Arkansas, on 4 December 1955. While driving through the city at about 0130 hours, Private *Malaster* saw flames raging from a second story apartment window. Though the fire was well advanced he dashed into the building without thought of danger to himself and by shouting and pounding on doors awakened a family of two adults and two chilren. When he kicked open the door of the rear apartment flames flared out, engulfing the landing and cutting off access to the stairs by the victims. Despite the flames and dense smoke Private *Malaster* remained on the stairwell and instructed the parents to hand the children to him, carried them outside, and then assisted the adults out of the building only a few minute before all escape became impossible. Private *Malaster's* prompt action and selfless devotion in saving others reflect great credit on himself and the military service.

Captain *George D. Reasonover*, , Corps of Engineers, United States Army, while a member of Company C, 3d Engineer Battalion, distinguished himself by heroism in Korea, on 25 June 1955. During the torrential summer rains, a pontoon bridge was ripped from its moorings, swirled adrift and lodged against the abutments of Libby Bridge, a vital communications link spanning the swollen Imjin River in flood stage. Trees, timber, and other debris were collecting rapidly, and the tremendous pressure and vibration posed an imminent threat to the structural integrity of the piers. After reconnoitering the situation and procuring explosives, Captain *Reasonover* voluntarily elected to be lowered to the twisting, lurching bridge in an effort to blast it free. Despite the hazards of the elements, slippery footing, and the swift current canting the floating bridge to a 40 degree angle during the operation, Captain *Reasonover* worked for more than an hour placing and resetting the charges to where they could be primed for detonation. As a result of his prompt, courageous actions the ponton bridge was blown free and drifted downstream where it was reclaimed, and Libby Bridge escaped without damage. Captain *Reasonover's* exemplary conduct reflects utmost credit on himself and upholds the traditions of the military service.

Specialist Third Class *Peter P. Tamburin*, , United States Army, while on leave en route from assignment in Korea to assignment at Fort Lee, Virginia, distinguished himself by heroism on 18 November 1955 when the civilian aircraft in which he was a passenger crashed and burned approximately 1 mile south of Boeing Field, Seattle, Washington. Specialist *Tamburin* escaped the wreckage and flames without injury, and then without hesitation or concern for his own safety dashed into the flaming wreckage and brought out an 8-year old boy who had been trapped inside. The prompt and courageous action of Specialist *Tamburin* reflects great credit on himself and the military service.

Specialist Third Class *Hugo W. Weiss*, , United States Army, while on leave en route from assignment in Korea to assignment at Fort Eustis, Virginia, distinguished himself by heroism on 18 November 1955 when the civilian aircraft in which he was a passenger crashed and burned approximately 1 mile south of Boeing Field, Seattle, Washington. Although Specialist *Weiss* was

badly burned, he unhesitatingly entered into rescue work without the slightest regard for his own safety. His quick thinking and prompt action in extinguishing the flaming clothing of one soldier was instrumental in saving his life. Specialist *Weiss* entered the flaming wreckage in an attempt to extricate others from their trapped positions and though his efforts proved to be in vain his complete disregard of his personal safety and alert presence of mind in the face of great danger earned the respect of his comrades and reflects great credit on himself and 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), the 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:

Captain (then First Lieutenant) *Ernest W. Denham, Jr.*, , Infantry, United States Army, Commanding Officer, "B" Company, 21st Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, distinguished himself by heroism against an armed enemy in the vicinity of Chunchon, Korea, on 26 May 1951. Company "B" was moving forward to engage in a final attack on a stubbornly defended ridge when they were halted by enemy troops entrenched at the top of a dominating rock mass. After personally reconnoitering the fire-swept area, Captain *Denham* committed portions of his company with such speed and skill that in the ensuing close combat the enemy was completely routed. While directing this distinguishing, small-unit action from an exposed position, Captain *Denham* was severely wounded by artillery fire. Despite the seriousness of his wound, he courageously refused evacuation and with prompt, vigorous action, directed the reorganization of the company. Inspired by his example of bravery, his comrades surged forward to capture the objective, then regrouped and continued their advance. Captain *Denham's* exemplary courage, perseverance, and gallant leadership reflect credit on himself and uphold the esteemed traditions of the military service.

V. COMMENDATION RIBBON WITH METAL PENDANT. By direction of the Secretary of the Army, under the provisions of paragraph 20, AR 600–45, the Commendation Ribbon with Metal Pendant (first Oak Leaf Cluster) for meritorious achievement on the date indicated is awarded posthumously to the following-named officer:

Warrant Officer, W1, *Donald E. Evans*, , United States Army. 25 August 1955.

VI. 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 periods indicated is awarded to the following-named officers and enlisted men:

Master Specialist *Philip J. Bouthot*, , United States Army. 9 December 1954 to 8 December 1955.

Master Sergeant *Larry E. Grant*, , Finance Corps, United States Army. 14 May to 10 October 1953.

First Lieutenant *Clarence L. Heisel*, , Armor, United States Army. 15 June to 15 December 1953.

First Lieutenant *Alvin L. McDowell*, , Corps of Engineers, United States Army. 21 December 1955 to 15 January 1956.

Specialist Third Class *Robert F. Moroney*, , United States Army. 5 August 1955 to 8 February 1956.

Major *James J. Nielsen*, , Infantry, United States Army. 16 December 1954 to 5 October 1955.

Captain *Thomas G. Quinn*, , (then First Lieutenant) Armor, United States Army. 15 June to 15 December 1953.

First Lieutenant *Edward E. Waldron, II*, , Infantry, United States Army. 1 February to 23 November 1953.

2. By direction of the Secretary of the Army, under the provisions of paragraph 20, AR 600–45, the Commendation Ribbon with Metal Pendant (first Oak Leaf Cluster), for meritorious service during the period indicated is awarded to the following-named officer:

Major *Robert C. Prince, Jr.*, , Ordnance Corps, United States Army. 4 March 1955 to 12 December 1955.

3. 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 enlisted men:

Master Sergeant *James J. Brennan*, , Corps of Engineers, United States Army. 11 November 1955.

Master Sergeant *Roland Caron*, , Artillery, United States Army. 11 February 1955.

Sergeant *Fred I. Combs*, , Military Police Corps, United States Army. 2 December 1955.

Specialist Third Class *Leonard Kovach*, , (then Private First Class), Artillery, United States Army. 11 February 1955.

Sergeant First Class *Stanley M. Kulakowski*, , United States Army. 30 March 1955.

Specialist First Class *Casius H. McGowan*, , United States Army. 23 to 24 December 1955.

4. By direction of the Secretary of the Army, under the provisions of paragraph 20, AR 600–45, the Commendation Ribbon with Metal Pendant (first Oak Leaf Cluster) for meritorious achievement during the period indicated is awarded to the following-named enlisted man:

Sergeant First Class *Steven J. Drummond*, , Infantry, United States Army. 23 to 24 December 1955.

VII. BRONZE STAR MEDAL. So much of section VII, DA General Orders 7, 1956, as pertains to the award of the Bronze Star Medal with "V" device for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States to Captain *Thomas G. McCunniff*, , Infantry, United States Army, as reads "Bronze Star Medal" is amended to read **"Bronze Star Medal (first Oak Leaf Cluster)."**

By Order of *Wilber M. Brucker*, 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.

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