GENERAL ORDERS
No. 20

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
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I. DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (WD Bul. 43, 1918), the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action against an enemy is awarded posthumously by the Department of the Army to the following-named individual:

Private *Lloyd E. Beltz*, , Infantry, United States Army, a member of Company K, 7th Calvary Regiment, 1st Calvary Division, distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy in the vicinity of Yonchon, Korea, on 5 October 1951. Private *Beltz'* platoon was ordered to attack and secure commanding terrain tenaciously defended by superior enemy forces. Having advanced to within 75 yards of the objective, the platoon was pinned down by intense fire from two enemy machine gun nests and sustained several casualties. On his own initiative, Private *Beltz* cradled his light machine gun in his arms and advanced on the enemy entrenchments. In spite of the intense fire, seemingly directed only at him, Private *Beltz*, alone and unaided, dispersed and destroyed the enemy position. As the platoon moved forward to join him, Private *Beltz* charged the last, slightly lower fringe of terrain from which enemy fire emanated and, with very little ammunition remaining in his belt, successfully dispersed the enemy and secured the objective. In the last stages of the attack, he was mortally wounded by machine gun fire from an adjacent hill. The courageous action and gallant self-sacrifice of Private *Beltz* inspired his comrades and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

II. 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:

General *Orval R. Cook*, , United States Air Force. 1 April 1954 to 31 May 1956.

III. 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 is awarded to the following-named officer:

Brigadier General *Rene Gonzales Torres*, Bolivian Army. Chief of Staff of the Bolivian 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. 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 *J. G. N. Wilton*, Royal Australian Army. 27 March 1953 to 19 February 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:

Colonel *Umberto Rosato*, Italian Army. March 1953 to December 1955.

IV. 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 is awarded to the following-named enlisted men:

Specialist Third Class *Raymond B. Johnson*, , Corps of Engineers, United States Army, a member of the 48th Engineer Company (Field Maintenance), distinguished himself by heroism at Fort Richardson, Alaska, on 7 January 1956. During Specialist *Johnson's* daily inspection of a building used for storage of class IV Pool equipment and heated storage for a tractor and a 2½-ton truck, he noticed a small fire. Without delay he summoned help and sounded the alarm. He then returned to the building where he began to combat the fire. Observing that the blaze had increased and was consuming the wooden structure and blocking the entrance, Specialist *Johnson* circled the building and unhesitatingly, without regard to his own life, entered through the rear. He mounted the cab of the 2½-ton truck, started the engine after several attempts, and proceeded to push the parked tractor through the front entranceway which was then entirely enveloped by the raging flames. The operator's seat on the tractor was on fire and flames were spreading toward the fuel tank further endangering Specialist *Johnson's* life by the possibility of explosion. After having risked his life to prevent destruction of government equipment, he remained in the vicinity and fought the fire until it was under control. Specialist *Johnson's* prompt and courageous actions in the face of imminent danger reflect great credit on himself and the military service.

Specialist Second Class *Henry J. Landry*, , Transportation Corps, distinguished himself by heroism at Lee Hall, Virginia, on 27 January 1956. Awakened by an explosion of a boiler in a nearby cleaning plant, Specialist *Landry* rushed to the site of the accident. Upon being informed that a civilian operator was in the building, which was now aflame, Specialist *Landry* unhesitatingly entered to rescue him. The victim was found under a pile of burning debris which was soaked with oil and chemicals. Aided by a companion Specialist *Landry* quickly removed the debris and succeeded in removing the injured man seconds before the building collapsed. The prompt and courageous action of Specialist *Landry* reflects great credit on himself and the military service.

Specialist Third Class *William D. LeJune*, , (then Private First Class), Military Police Corps, United States Army, distinguished himself by heroism at Schweinfurt, Germany, on 13 April 1955. Specialist *LeJune* heard a call for help in the direction of the Main River, and upon reaching the river bank saw a woman floundering about 30 yards out. At this point the river is about 250 feet from a powerhouse spillway and the current is rapid. Despite the fact

that the area was not well lighted and the bank rocky Specialist *LeJune* disregarded any danger to himself and unhesitatingly plunged into the cold water. Though hampered by his clothing he swam to the struggling woman and successfully brought her to safety. Specialist *LeJune's* prompt and courageous action reflects distinct credit on himself and the military service.

Sergeant *Arthur F. Louro*, , Transportation Corps, United States Army, a member of Headquarters and Headquarters and Service Company, Transportation Research and Development Command, distinguished himself by heroism at Lee Hall, Virginia, on 27 January 1956. Awakened by an explosion of a boiler in a nearby cleaning plant Sergeant *Louro* rushed to the site of the accident. Upon being informed that a civilian worker was inside, Sergeant *Louro* unhesitatingly entered the flaming building to rescue him. The victim was found under a pile of debris which was soaked with oil and chemicals. Calling upon a companion for assistance Sergeant *Louro* removed the debris and succeeded in removing the injured man seconds before the building collapsed. The prompt and courageous action of Sergeant *Louro* reflects great credit on himself and the military service.

Private *David Y. Maxon*, , United States Army, a member of Land Rescue Team, 25th Reconnaissance Company, distinguished himself by heroism on 18 March 1956 while participating in the rescue of two civilian youths in the Waianae Mountains south of Makua Valley, Oahu, Territory of Hawaii. The two youths, members of an ill-fated climbing party, became marooned, through a mishap, on a narrow ledge approximately 1500 feet above the valley floor and 500 feet below the crest of the mountain. After assisting in the rescue of one of the boys, and although suffering extreme fatigue induced by the second arduous climb of that day from the valley floor, he volunteered to attempt the recovery of the remaining boy. Alone and in the dark, hampered by wind, mist, and wet ropes, Private *Maxon* managed to lower himself using the rappelling technique, 500 feet down the unfamiliar and treacherous face of the steep slope to the youth's position. During this operation any mischance would have plunged him to his death 2000 feet down the mountain. The boy, another team member, and Private *Maxon* were then hoisted to the top of the mountain. During this hazardous operation, Private *Maxon* displayed outstanding courage and determination, reflecting great credit on himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

Sergeant First Class *Kenneth A. Schmitt*, , Artillery, United States Army, a member of Battery "B", 674th Airborne Field Artillery Battalion, distinguished himself by heroism at Camp Hakata, Kyushu, Japan, on 17 June 1955. While participating in a parachute jump and in the act of descending, a fellow paratrooper whose parachute had failed to open came in contact with Sergeant *Schmitt*. With complete disregard for his personal safety and with the utmost presence of mind Sergeant *Schmitt* grabbed the canopy of the other jumper's parachute. Sergeant *Schmitt's* own reserve parachute was torn open on contact with the other jumper and had to be held in with one hand to keep from fouling in his own canopy. Nevertheless he retained his hold on his comrade's canopy until they were both on the ground. Sergeant *Schmitt's* prompt and courageous action was responsible for preventing serious injury or possible death to his comrade and reflects great credit on himself and the military service.

Sergeant First Class *Mamoru Shimizu*, , United States Army, a member of Land Rescue Team, 25th Reconnaissance Company, distinguished himself by heroism on 18 March 1956 while participating in the rescue of two civilian youths in the Waianae Mountains south of Makua Valley, Oahu, Terri-

tory of Hawaii. The two youths, members of an ill-fated climbing party, became marooned, through a mishap, on a narrow ledge approximately 1,500 feet above the valley floor and 500 feet below the crest of the mountain. Although suffering extreme fatigue induced by the second arduous climb of that day from the valley floor, Sergeant *Shimizu* immediately and unhesitatingly undertook the rescue of the two lads. With complete disregard for his own safety, hampered by wind, mist, and gathering darkness, he began the descent by rope rappele. Making his way down the unfamiliar and treacherous slope, he descended approximately 500 feet before reaching the ledge. During this operation any mischance would have plunged him to his death 2,000 feet down the mountain. He thereupon secured the youths, one at a time, to the rope and saw them pulled to safety, and then regained the top of the mountain himself in the same manner. The following morning, he led the entire party to a site from which the rescue could be completed by helicopter. Throughout this operation, Sergeant *Shimizu* displayed great courage, consummate skill and outstanding leadership which reflect great credit on himself and his unit and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army.

Sergeant First Class *Roscoe D. Stout*, , United States Army, a member of Detachment 11, Headquarters 5115th SU, with station at Mobridge, South Dakota, distinguished himself by heroism at Mobridge, South Dakota, on 14 September 1955. Sergeant *Stout*, while at home, discovered a five-year-old boy in the back yard completely enveloped in flames and screaming hopelessly in terror and pain. Without regard for his personal safety Sergeant *Stout* immediately rushed to the child's aid and managed to smother the flames with his hands and body. Sergeant *Stout*, still ignoring the pain of his own burns, took the young boy to the hospital for treatment. Sergeant *Stout's* prompt, brave and thoughtful action was undoubtedly a major factor in saving the life of the boy reflecting great credit on himself and the military service.

V..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 officer and enlisted men:

Sergeant *Manuel B. Alonzo*, , (then Corporal), United States Army. 2 May to 2 July 1954.

First Lieutenant *Luke A. Vavra, Jr.*, , Artillery, United States Army. 11 July to 10 September 1955.

Sergeant *Harold A. Williams*, , (then First Lieutenant, O968481, Infantry, United States Army. 22 December 1951 to 1 February 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:

Captain *George W. Creighton*, , Infantry, United States Army. 1 September to 15 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 date indicated is awarded to the following-named officers and enlisted men:

Master Sergeant *John R. Brannon*, , Transportation Corps, United States Army. 1 November 1955.

Chaplain (First Lieutenant) *Thomas F. Craven,* , Chaplains, United States Army. 7 December 1954.

First Lieutenant *Fred G. Gehrmann,* , (then Second Lieutenant), Infantry, United States Army. 15 November 1954.

Lieutenant Colonel *Wendell T. Jackson,* , (then Major) Dental Corps, United States Army. 1 September to 2 November 1950.

Master Sergeant *Richard S. Phillips,* , Corps of Engineers, United States Army. 10 April 1955.

Chief Warrant Officer, W2, *Edward A. Spencer,* , (then Warrant Officer, W1), United States Army. 25 August 1955.

Captain *Edward R. Stevens,* , Infantry, United States Army. 16 October 1955.

VI..SOLDIER'S MEDAL. So much of Section V, DA General Orders 7, 24 February 1956, as pertains to the award of the Soldier's Medal to Private *Robert L. Clarkson,* , is revoked.

VII..COMMENDATION RIBBON WITH METAL PENDANT. So much of Paragraph 4, Section V, DA General Orders 10, 21 March 1956, as pertains to award of the Commendation Ribbon with Metal Pendant to Cadet *John J. Hodge,* Reserve Officer's Training Corps, United States Army, is revoked.

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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