GENERAL ORDERS No. 51

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 on the dates indicated is awarded posthumously to the following-named officer and enlisted man:

Second Lieutenant *James H. Marshall,* , Infantry, United States Army, Company L, 38th Infantry Regiment, 2d Infantry Division, distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action against the enemy on 19 September 1952, in the vicinity of Changu-Gol, Korea. Upon assuming command of Company L due to the evacuation of the company commander because of wounds, Lieutenant *Marshall* maneuvered the company into a position preparatory to an attack on enemy positions on top of a hill. While awaiting the lifting of friendly artillery fire from the area Lieutenant *Marshall* noticed a tank attempting to fire into the embrasures of enemy bunkers. The fire from the tank was ineffective as the tank commander's view was inadequate from his position. Despite the continued hail of both friendly and enemy artillery and mortar fire Lieutenant *Marshall* rushed to the tank in order to direct its guns. Firing his carbine en route, Lieutenant *Marshall* reached the tank and was able to direct accurate and deadly fire upon the entrenched enemy until he fell mortally wounded. The extraordinary heroism displayed by Lieutenant *Marshall* aided in no small measure in the recapture of the hill and is in keeping with the high traditions of the military service.

Sergeant First Class *Clarence E. Postlethwait,* (then Sergeant) Medical Corps, United States Army, an aidman assigned to Medical Company, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action against the enemy near Unsan, Korea, on 2 November 1950. The 3d Battalion was completely surrounded and contained in a small defense perimeter in an open field and pinned down by heavy concentrations of enemy automatic small arms fire. There were approximately 125 American wounded within this defense perimeter, who had received no medical attention, due to the fact that all medical supplies were aboard a truck which had to be abandoned during the preceding night's furious engagement and which was located at an exposed point approximately 75 yards outside the defense perimeter, in full view of the enemy. Sergeant *Postlethwait* fearlessly volunteered to attempt to reach the truck and bring back medications and bandages to enable the battalion surgeon to render emergency treatment to the wounded. With utter disregard for his own safety, he left the comparative cover of the defense perimeter, made his way to the truck amidst bursts of fire from enemy snipers, and collected the necessary medical supplies. He had all but arrived back at the defense perimeter, when he was mortally wounded by fragments from enemy grenades. Sergeant *Postlethwait's* unflinching courage and heroic self-

sacrifice in an effort to alleviate the sufferings of his wounded comrades set an inspirational example of valor to all who observed him, reflecting the highest credit on himself, and upholding the finest traditions of the military service.

II. 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 on the dates indicated is awarded to the following-named officer:

Lieutenant Colonel *John C. Fralish,* (then Major) Artillery, United States Army, while a member of Headquarters, 503d Field Artillery Battalion, 2d Infantry Division, distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on 30 November 1950, and 1 December 1950, in the vicinity of Ch'ongnyongch'am, North Korea. When his battalion was cut off several miles behind enemy lines, surrounded and attacked from all sides by vastly superior numbers of enemy troops, Colonel *Fralish* took command of and led a successful attack to break out of the trap and thwart the enemy's plan to destroy the entire command. When the battalion's motorized column was halted by fanatical attacks at dusk, Colonel *Fralish* voluntarily executed a detailed ground reconnaissance of enemy strength and locations during which he was under intense enemy fire and suffered wounds three different times. Despite the heavy volume of mortar, machine gun and small arms fire from the surrounding hills, Colonel *Fralish* succeeded in emplacing a 155-mm howitzer and took the enemy positions under direct fire, personally boresighting the howitzer for each round, until enemy fire disabled the weapon and killed the cannoneer. He then ordered the antiaircraft self-propelled automatic weapons with the column to be brought forward and directed their fire on the targets he had located by reconnaissance. After neutralizing many of the enemy weapons and repelling several direct assaults on the head of the column, he gave orders to maintain fire on enemy positions and started organizing a convoy to move out at the opportune time. Ignoring the constant hail of mortar fire and bullets, Colonel *Fralish* moved confidently from place to place within the perimeter, pushing the self-propelled weapons forward, pointing out targets to be taken under fire, directing the clearing of burning and disabled vehicles from the road, recruiting drivers to replace those who had been killed or wounded, directing the loading of those who were wounded onto the vehicles, and giving orders and instructions on every hand. Colonel *Fralish* continued to display such leadership, confidence and valor that the men around him were imbued with his indomitable spirit until the disorganized group became an invincible fighting force. Thus inspired, hundreds of men rallied around him and placed a devastating volume of fire on the enemy positions as he directed. Finally the convoy fought a running fight for 8 miles and broke clear of the enemy trap. Colonel *Fralish's* inspired leadership, combined with his absolute disregard for his own safety, and his extreme coolness under intense enemy fire were directly responsible for the success of the battalion in its mission. The extraordinary courage and indomitable will displayed by Colonel *Fralish* in risking his life repeatedly to organize and lead the remnants of his own and several other units reflect the greatest credit on himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. (This award supersedes the award of the Silver Star to Colonel *Fralish,* for gallantry in action on 30 November 1950, published in General Orders No. 97, Headquarters, 2d Infantry Division, APO 248, 5 May 1951).

III..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 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 *Edmund C. R. Lasher,* (then Colonel) United States Army. 6 September 1950 to 31 July 1951. (This award supersedes the award of the Legion of Merit (first Oak Leaf Cluster) to Colonel *Lasher,* for services from September 1950 to July 1951, published in General Orders No. 85, Department of the Army, 25 September 1951.)

IV..SILVER STAR. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress, approved 9 July 1918 (WD Bul. 53, 1918), the Silver Star for gallantry in action on the dates indicated is awarded to the following-named officers:

Captain *James A. Michienzi,* , Infantry (then first Lieutenant) United States Army, distinguished himself by gallantry in action near Chong-Ji-Chon, Korea, on 7 September 1952. The combat patrol of which Captain *Michienzi* was a member was suddenly subjected to an intense volume of small arms, mortar, and grenade fire from a well entrenched enemy position. The platoon leader was severely wounded and the platoon became disorganized. Although painfully wounded himself, Captain *Michienzi* assumed command, reorganized the platoon, and continued the mission. He personally carried the severely wounded patrol leader from the position and assisted in the evacuation of other wounded. His unhesitating and courageous action inspired his comrades to the successful completion of their mission and is in keeping with the high traditions of the military service.

Captain *Malcolm A. Sussel,* , Infantry (then first Lieutenant) United States Army, distinguished himself by gallantry in action near Osu-ri, Korea, on 6 February 1951. While making a reconnaissance on a hilly and wooded area Captain *Sussel* found an enemy force on the battalion's exposed flank. With only two squads at his disposal Captain *Sussel* deployed one along high ground and exposed himself to enemy small arms fire in order to more effectively direct fire from beyond the village. With the other squad he set up a road block and for 3 hours successfully held the position and captured one prisoner. Through Captain *Sussel's* direction while continually exposed to the enemy, the fire became so accurate that the enemy withdrew from the forward slope and surrounding area. Captain *Sussel* then remained exposed to mortar fire personally directing the withdrawal of all men and vehicles. Captain *Sussel's* courage, and prompt and aggressive employment of his small force against numerically superior enemy forces permitted his battalion to form a defensive line, and reflect great credit on himself and the military service.

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

Colonel *Benjamin A. Lentz,* , Transportation Corps, United States Army. 12 June 1954 to 10 July 1956.

VI..LEGION OF MERIT. 1. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 20 July 1942, and Executive Order 10600,

15 March 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:

Lieutenant General *Antonio Alcubilla Perez*, Spanish Army.

General *Frederico Da Costa Lopes Da Silva*, Portuguese Army.

2. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 20 July 1942, and Executive Order 10600, 15 March 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 *Otto Bliwenkrone-Møller*, Army of Denmark. April 1953 to October 1956.

General *Luang Chulayudh Yan Yong*, Royal Thai Army.

Lieutenant Colonel *Joseph Simaan*, Lebanese.

VII..SOLDIER'S MEDAL. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress, approved 2 July 1926 (W. D. 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 enlisted men:

Private First Class *Willis D. Bassett*, , Transportation Corps, United States Army, a member of the 461st Transportation Company, distinguished himself by heroism at Fort Story, Virginia on 8 May 1956. Private *Bassett*, an amphibious truck driver, was summoned to aid in the rescue of the crew of a swamped landing vehicle track. Arriving at the scene with his amphibious truck he immediately entered the high and unusually rough surf and maneuvered to the sunken vehicle where he effected the rescue of one man, although during the action the hull of his truck was punctured when it came in contact with the sunken vehicle. With complete disregard for his own safety he immediately re-entered the heavy surf with his damaged vehicle to attempt the rescue of a second crew member. The half drowned soldier was unable to help himself, therefore, when a rope was thrown around him by Private *Bassett* it was immediately washed over his head. The churning surf and undertow washed the soldier off the sunken vehicle. Private *Bassett* continued to try to locate the soldier and effect his rescue even though his amphibious truck was leaking badly. Private *Bassett's* prompt and courageous action reflects great credit on himself and the military service.

Private First Class *Robert L. Blaske*, , Transportation Corps, United States Army, a member of the 461st Transportation Company, distinguished himself by heroism at Fort Story, Virginia on 8 May 1956. Private *Blaske*, acting as assistant amphibious truck driver, was summoned to aid in the rescue of the crew of a swamped landing vehicle track. Upon arriving at the scene Private *Blaske* mounted an amphibious truck and proceeded through a high and unusually rough surf to the swamped vehicle. Risking his own life, balancing far out over the side of the amphibious truck Private *Blaske* succeeded in rescuing one of the crew with the help of a companion. After returning the rescued man to the beach Private *Blaske* again with complete disregard for his own safety volunteered to return to the swamped vehicle to attempt the rescue of another crew member which failed due to the raging surf and high wind. Private *Blaske's* prompt and courageous action reflects great credit on himself and the military service.

Specialist Second Class *Francis W. Dunham*, , Corps of Engineers, United States Army, while a member of Company C, 21st Engineer Bat-

talion (C), distinguished himself by heroism near Camp Hale, Colorado, on 6 April 1956. During Exercise "Lodestar Bravo" Specialist *Dunham's* company occupied positions on Gore Range at a rock outcropping at an elevation of 12,300 feet. During the night while a blizzard was raging Specialist *Dunham* discovered one of the men missing. He searched the area with a flashlight and found tracks leading over the edge of a snow cornice. After alerting his platoon leader, Specialist *Dunham* secured a climbing rope to a tracked vehicle and, in spite of the darkness, cold, and his lack of mountain climbing experience, unhesitatingly descended the rope to a ledge 70 feet below. There he discovered tracks and other signs that indicated the victim of the accident was staggering blindly. Following the tracks for approximately 2 miles over treacherous footing Specialist *Dunham* found the soldier dazed and badly shaken. After building a fire to warm the soldier Specialist *Dunham* was joined by two members of the Mountain and Cold Weather Training Command who had reached the location by another route and assisted the victim to a highway 4 miles distant where transportation was available. Specialist *Dunham's* alertness, prompt action, and disregard of his own safety in behalf of another reflect great credit on himself and the military service.

Master Sergeant *Comfort B. Hardin, Jr.*, , Infantry, United States Army, distinguished himself by heroism while a member of Detachment 3 (5108) University of Missouri ROTC Instructor Group, Columbia, Missouri, on 5 June 1956. Upon learning that a young boy had become entangled in dense weeds and other underwater obstacles while swimming in a pond, Sergeant *Hardin* immediately ran to the pond and without hesitation dived into the deep, weed-choked water as the boy was going under. In spite of the panic-inspired resistance of the drowning boy which dragged Sergeant *Hardin* under the surface, he managed to disentangle himself and the boy, bringing him safely to shore, where he was able to resuscitate him. Sergeant *Hardin's* utter disregard for his own safety, his quick thinking, fast action, and unhesitating display of courage reflect the highest credit on himself and the United States Army.

Private First Class *Richard P. Kinsley*, , Artillery, United States Army, a member of Battery "A", 36th Field Artillery Battalion, distinguished himself by heroism at Medicine Park, Oklahoma, on 30 June 1956. While driving with friends through the town, he heard a 10-year-old boy crying for help. The boy was standing by the shore of Medicine Creek, and his brother, aged 4, was observed floating down the creek apparently lifeless. The boy had slipped from a rock at a point where the creek was 35 yards wide and 12 feet deep. A dam, 125 yards upstream, had been opened causing the water to rise one and a half feet and to flow at a speed of 8 to 10 miles per hour. The creek bed had been washed out from under the rock creating the danger that both the boy and his rescuer would be swept and pinned under the rock. Without hesitating even to remove his clothing, Private *Kinsley* jumped into the water and swam to a spot 50 yards away on the opposite side of the river. There he recovered the child despite the swift current and the danger of being dragged under by his own wet clothing. After carrying the boy ashore, he administered artificial respiration for approximately 15 minutes at which time the child regained consciousness. Private *Kinsley's* courage, decisiveness, and disregard for the safety of his own life reflect great credit on himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army.

Specialist Third Class *Marvin D. Toleson*, (then Private first class) Corps of Engineers, United States Army, distinguished himself by heroic

achievement while a member of the 29th Engineer Company (Survey, Base) in Thailand, from 9 September to 14 September 1955. Specialist *Toleson* was the sole military member with a Filipino contract survey party in an isolated mountainous jungle near Ban Lawa, Kanburi, Thailand. On 9 September, while attempting aerial resupply of the group, a light aircraft crashed and burned, killing the five occupants. Fully aware of the hazards involved, Specialist *Toleson* swam the flooded Khwae Moi River to the scene of the tragedy and despite the intense heat, directed rescue operations. After dispatching messengers with the crash report, he formed a guard, recovered and identified the dead and conducted a prayer service. Later, he constructed a raft, led a Filipino group in preparing the remains for transport to the nearest railhead and served as accompanying escort to Kanburi. Specialist *Toleson's* exemplary conduct and capacity for prompt, courageous action won the respect and admiration of all who observed him, reflecting great credit on himself and the military service.

VIII..BRONZE STAR MEDAL. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 9419, 4 February 1944 a Bronze Star Medal with "V" device for heroic conduct in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States is awarded posthumously to the following-named enlisted man:

Master Sergeant *Guenther A. Burrer*, , Infantry, United States Army, a member of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, First Battalion, 38th Infantry Regiment, 2d Infantry Division distinguished himself by heroism in action near Hoengsong, Korea from 12 February to 23 February 1951. While participating in a two man assault against an enemy machinegun position, his carbine was disabled and the other soldier wounded. When he attempted to dress his comrade's wounds he was wounded by machinegun fire but succeeded in removing the soldier to a safer position and attending his wounds. When taken prisoner, he continued to assist his wounded friend over rough terrain although himself suffering from injuries. Later a group of captured United Nations soldiers were resting on a hill side when they were strafed and bombed by friendly planes. While the strafing was in progress, Sergeant *Burrer* stood in an open area and attempted to wave the planes off. When napalm fired the straw the wounded were using for cover, he rushed to help remove the more seriously injured and assisted in caring for those who were hurt by the strafing. Throughout the long night marches northward he demonstrated his devotion to duty by continually assisting the wounded and offering encouragement to all. Sergeant *Burrer's* heroism and devotion to duty reflect credit on himself and the military service.

IX..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 for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States during the period indicated is awarded to the following-named officer:

Lieutenant Colonel *Louis E. Hinsey*, , (then Major), Infantry, United States Army. 26 December 1951 to 10 May 1952.

X..COMMENDATION RIBBON WITH METAL PENDANT. 1. By direction of the Secretary of the Army, under the provisions of paragraph 13, AR 672-5-1, the Commendation Ribbon with Metal Pendant for meritorious service during

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

Captain *George E. Dewter*, , General Staff (Infantry), United States Army. 1 April to 1 August 1956.

Major *John M. Hogg*, , Signal Corps, United States Army. 8 September 1954 to 28 February 1955.

Lieutenant Colonel *John M. McAlister, Jr.*, , Artillery, United States Army. 5 January 1955 to 12 April 1955.

Master Sergeant *John T. Sanders, Sr.*, , United States Army. August 1955 to September 1956.

Captain *Richard W. Streiff*, , Armor, United States Army. June 1953 to July 1956.

Master Sergeant *John D. Taylor*, , United States Army. 1 August 1955 to 30 September 1955.

Captain *Edward N. Tucker*, , Corps of Engineers, United States Army. 20 March to 27 August 1956.

2. By direction of the Secretary of the Army, under the provisions of paragraph 13, AR 672-5-1 the Commendation Ribbon with Metal Pendant for meritorious achievement on the dates indicated is awarded to the following-named officers and enlisted men:

Sergeant First Class *Gerald H. Bush*, , Corps of Engineers, United States Army. On 9 November 1955.

Captain *Herman E. Edwards, Jr.*, , Artillery, United States Army. 12 May 1956.

Captain *Ernest C. Elmore*, , Corps of Engineers, United States Army. 13 and 14 August 1955.

Sergeant *William F. Garrard, Sr.*, , Signal Corps, United States Army. 3 June 1956.

Master Sergeant *William D. Martin*, , Artillery, United States Army. 12 May 1956.

Specialist Second Class (then Corporal) *James L. Storey*, , Corps of Engineers, United States Army. On 22 August 1955.

3. By direction of the Secretary of the Army, under the provisions of paragraph 13, AR 672-5-1, the Commendation Ribbon with Metal Pendant (first Oak Leaf Cluster) for meritorious services on the dates indicated is awarded to the following-named officer:

Chief Warrant Officer *Gerald Pagano*, , United States Army. 10 September 1951 to 24 July 1955.

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.

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.

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