

GENERAL ORDERS

No. 18

HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, DC, 23 April 1970

AWARD OF THE MEDAL OF HONOR



By direction of the President, under the Joint Resolution of Congress approved 12 July 1862 (amended by act of 3 March 1863, act of 9 July 1918 and act of 25 July 1963), 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 Congress to:



Private First Class *Milton A. Lee*, United States Army, who distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action above and beyond the call of duty on 26 April 1968, near the city of Phu Bai in the Province of Thua Thien, Republic of Vietnam. Private *Lee* was serving as the radio telephone operator with the 3d Platoon, Company B, 2d Battalion, 502d Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile). As lead element for the company, the 3d Platoon received intense surprise hostile fire from a force of North Vietnamese Army Regulars in well-concealed bunkers. With 50 percent casualties, the platoon maneuvered to a position of cover to treat their wounded and reorganize, while Private *Lee* moved through the heavy enemy fire giving life-saving first aid to his wounded comrades. During the subsequent assault on the enemy defensive positions, Private *Lee* continuously kept close radio contact with the company commander, relaying precise and understandable orders to his platoon leader. While advancing with the front rank toward the objective, Private *Lee* observed four North Vietnamese soldiers with automatic weapons and a rocket launcher lying in wait for the lead element of the platoon. As the element moved forward, unaware of the concealed danger, Private *Lee* immediately and with utter disregard for his own personal safety, passed his radio to another soldier and charged through the murderous fire. Without hesitation he continued his assault, overrunning the enemy position, killing all occupants and capturing four automatic weapons and a rocket launcher. Private *Lee* continued his one-man assault on the second position through a heavy barrage of enemy automatic weapons fire. Grievously wounded, he continued to press the attack, crawling forward into a firing position and delivering accurate covering fire to enable his platoon to maneuver and destroy the position. Not until the position was overrun did Private *Lee* falter in his steady volume of fire and succumb to his wounds. Private *Lee's* heroic actions saved the lives of the lead element and were instrumental in the destruction of the key position of the enemy defense. Private *Lee's* conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on himself, the 502d Infantry, and the United States Army.



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