

GENERAL ORDERS }  
No. 56

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C., 2 August 1951

## AWARD OF THE MEDAL OF HONOR



By direction of the President, under the act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (WD Bul. 43, 1918), 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 the Congress to the following-named enlisted man:



Corporal *John W. Collier* (Service No. RA ), Infantry, United States Army, a member of Company C, 27th Infantry Regiment, distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty in action near Chindongui, Korea, on 19 September 1950. While engaged in an assault on a strategic ridge strongly defended by a fanatical enemy, the leading elements of his company encountered intense automatic-weapons and grenade fire. Corporal *Collier* and three comrades volunteered and moved forward to neutralize an enemy machine-gun position which was hampering the company's advance, but they were repulsed twice. On the third attempt, Corporal *Collier*, despite heavy enemy fire and grenade barrages, moved to an exposed position ahead of his comrades, assaulted and destroyed the machine-gun nest, and killed at least four enemy soldiers. As he returned down the rocky, fire-swept hill and joined his squad, an enemy grenade landed in their midst. Shouting a warning to his comrades, he, selflessly and unhesitatingly, threw himself upon the grenade and smothered its explosion with his body. This intrepid action saved his comrades from death or injury. Corporal *Collier's* supreme, personal bravery, consummate gallantry, and noble self-sacrifice reflect untold glory on himself and uphold the honored traditions of the military service.



This general order will be read to all troops and will be posted conspicuously on the bulletin boards in each unit area.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

OFFICIAL:

WM. E. BERGIN  
*Major General, USA*  
*The Adjutant General*

J. LAWTON COLLINS  
*Chief of Staff, United States Army*