

HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON DC, 6 July 1972

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:

Sergeant *Rodney J. Evans*, United States Army, who distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism on 18 July 1969 while serving as a squad leader in Company D, 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division, during a combat mission in Tay Ninh Province, Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant *Evans* was leading his squad in a reconnaissance sweep through heavy vegetation to reconnoiter a strong enemy position. As the force approached a well-defined trail, the platoon scout warned that the trail was booby-trapped. Sergeant *Evans* led his squad on a route parallel to the trail. The force had started to move forward when a nearby squad was hit by the blast of a concealed mine. Looking to his right, Sergeant *Evans* saw a second enemy device. With complete disregard for his own safety he shouted a warning to his men, dived to the ground, and crawled toward the mine. Just as he reached it an enemy soldier detonated the explosive, and Sergeant *Evans* absorbed the full impact with his body. His gallant and selfless action saved his comrades from probable death or injury and served as an inspiration to his entire unit. Sergeant *Evans*' conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the cost of his life were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

GO 29

By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

Official:

VERNE L. BOWERS,
*Major General, United States Army,
The Adjutant General.*

BRUCE PALMER, JR.
*General, United States Army
Acting Chief of Staff*

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