



Washington, D. C.

**RICHARD M. NIXON**  
**VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES**

The Vice President of the United States, Richard M. Nixon, will present the Nation's highest award, the Medal of Honor, during ceremonies today.

Born in Yorba Linda, California, and educated in public schools, Vice President Nixon is a graduate of Whittier College and Duke University Law School. He practiced law in Whittier, California, from 1937 to the early part of 1942, when he accepted a position as an attorney in the Office of Emergency Management in Washington, D. C.



Shortly after the outbreak of World War II, the thirty-sixth Vice President of the United States went on active duty with the United States Navy and served until January 1946.

Vice President Nixon was elected to the Eightieth Congress in November 1946 and reelected to the Eighty-first Congress in November 1948. He was elected United States Senator from California in November 1950, for the term commencing January 3, 1951. On December 1, 1950, he was appointed United States Senator by Governor Earl Warren for the unexpired term of the Eighty-first Congress.

Vice President Nixon was elected to his present office on November 4, 1952 for the term beginning January 20, 1953.

MARINE BARRACKS  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Commanding Officer  
Executive Officer

Colonel James P. Berkeley  
Lt. Col. Warren P. Baker

Presentation of Medal of Honor Ceremonies  
9 September 1953

REVIEWING DIGNITARY

Richard M. Nixon  
Vice President of the United States

ORDER OF ACTIVITIES

1. Troops march on the parade ground
2. March on the Colors
3. Marine Band "Sounds Off" - Drum Major E.M. DeMar
4. Drum and Bugle Corps "Globe and Laurel"  
    Slow March of British Royal Marines - Drum Major W.O. Nickell
5. Colors are lowered --- The National Anthem
6. Adjutant publishes the Orders of the Day
7. Officers march center for special orders
8. Honors to the Vice President of the United States
9. Vice President presents the Medals of Honor
10. Pass in Review
11. March off the Colors
12. Troops march off the parade ground

PARADE COMMANDER  
BATTALION STAFF

Lt. Col. Warren P. Baker  
Capt. Tyler D. Evans  
Capt. Robert C. Needham  
Capt. Floyd M. McCurdy, Jr.

PARADE ADJUTANT

COMPANY COMMANDERS

"A" COMPANY  
"B" COMPANY

Capt. Charles R. Stephenson, III  
Capt. Earl F. Roth, Jr.

PLATOON COMMANDERS "A" COMPANY

FIRST PLATOON  
SECOND PLATOON  
THIRD PLATOON

1st. Lt. Warren P. Kitterman  
1st. Lt. John R. Love  
1st. Lt. Robert N. Burhans

PLATOON COMMANDERS "B" COMPANY

FIRST PLATOON  
SECOND PLATOON  
THIRD PLATOON

1st. Lt. Lytton E. Bulwer, Jr.  
1st. Lt. William Banta  
1st. Lt. Henry J. Hantzinger

## THE MEDAL OF HONOR

The Nation's highest award, the Medal of Honor, awarded today "For extraordinary heroism and conspicuous gallantry in action above and beyond the call of duty," was first authorized by Congress on December 21, 1862.

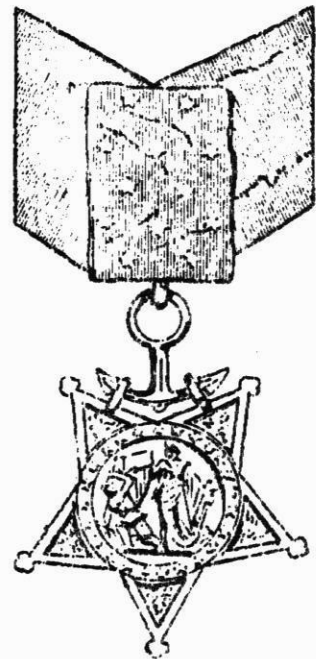
Symbolically designed, the star-shaped medal of bronze shows the figure of Minerva (the Union), "wise in the industries of peace and the arts of war." Encircled by the stars of the thirty-four states of 1861, she holds in her left hand the fasces (badge of authority).

The shield in her right hand is driving off the serpents held by the crouching figure of Discord, referred to in a letter of May 6, 1862, from the Director of the Mint as "..... the foul spirit of secession and rebellion." The devices emblazoned on the Medal of Honor truly typify the confusion and dissension rampant in the America of 1861.

The original purpose of the Medal of Honor - "To further promote the efficiency of the Navy," was broadened to include recognition for "deeds of gallantry and heroisms in time of War and Peace."

In 1878, Secretary of the Navy Thompson commended the record of the Medal of Honor Roll "..... in order that the rising generation of American Seamen shall be incited to emulate those deeds of their predecessors, and thus perpetuate in the Navy that devotion to each other in time of peril, and to the honor of the flag in times of storm and battle, which have hitherto characterized the Naval Service."

Ships and guns have changed. War operations and strategy have kept pace with the complex pattern of mid-twentieth century living. Heroism is as changeless as the truth.



The President of the United States in the name of The Congress takes pride in presenting the MEDAL OF HONOR posthumously to

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS JOHN D. KELLY,  
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

"For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a Radio Operator of Company C, First Battalion, Seventh Marines, First Marine Division (Reinforced), in action against enemy aggressor forces in Korea on 28 May 1952. With his platoon pinned down by a numerically superior enemy force employing intense mortar, artillery, small-arms and grenade fire, Private First Class Kelly requested permission to leave his radio in the care of another man and to participate in an assault on enemy key positions. Fearlessly charging forward in the face of a murderous hail of machine-gun fire and hand grenades, he initiated a daring attack against a hostile strongpoint and personally neutralized the position, killing two of the enemy. Unyielding in the face of heavy odds, he continued forward and singlehandedly assaulted a machine-gun bunker. Although painfully wounded, he bravely charged the bunker and destroyed it, killing three of the enemy. Courageously continuing his one-man assault, he again stormed forward in a valiant attempt to wipe out a third bunker and boldly delivered point-blank fire into the aperture of the hostile emplacement. Mortally wounded by enemy fire while carrying out this heroic action, Private First Class Kelly, by his great personal valor and aggressive fighting spirit, inspired his comrades to sweep on, overrun and secure the objective. His extraordinary heroism in the face of almost certain death reflects the highest credit upon himself and enhances the finest traditions of the United States Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country."

/s/ DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

The President of the United States in the name of The Congress takes pride in presenting the MEDAL OF HONOR posthumously to

STAFF SERGEANT LEWIS G. WATKINS,  
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS,

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

"For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a Guide of a Rifle Platoon of Company I, Third Battalion, Seventh Marines, First Marine Division (Reinforced), in action against enemy aggressor forces in Korea during the hours of darkness on the morning of 7 October 1952. With his platoon assigned the mission of re-taking an outpost which had been overrun by the enemy earlier in the night, Staff Sergeant Watkins skillfully led his unit in the assault up the designated hill. Although painfully wounded when a well-entrenched hostile force at the crest of the hill engaged the platoon with intense small-arms and grenade fire, he gallantly continued to lead his men. Obtaining an automatic rifle from one of the wounded men, he assisted in pinning down an enemy machine gun holding up the assault. When an enemy grenade landed among Staff Sergeant Watkins and several other Marines while they were moving forward through a trench on the hill crest, he immediately pushed his companions aside, placed himself in a position to shield them and picked up the deadly missile in an attempt to throw it outside the trench. Mortally wounded when the grenade exploded in his hand, Staff Sergeant Watkins, by his great personal valor in the face of almost certain death, saved the lives of several comrades and contributed materially to the success of the mission. His extraordinary heroism, inspiring leadership and resolute spirit of self-sacrifice reflect the highest credit upon himself and enhance the finest traditions of the United States Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country."

/s/ DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

The President of the United States in the name of The Congress takes pride in presenting the MEDAL OF HONOR posthumously to

PRIVATE JACK W. KELSO,  
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS,

for services as set forth in the following

CITATION:

"For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a Rifleman of Company I, Third Battalion, Seventh Marines, First Marine Division (Reinforced), in action against enemy aggressor forces in Korea on 2 October 1952. When both the platoon commander and the platoon sergeant became casualties during the defense of a vital outpost against a numerically superior enemy force attacking at night under cover of intense small-arms, grenade and mortar fire, Private Kelso bravely exposed himself to the hail of enemy fire in a determined effort to reorganize the unit and to repel the onrushing attackers. Forced to seek cover, along with four other Marines, in a near-by bunker which immediately came under attack, he unhesitatingly picked up an enemy grenade which landed in the shelter, rushed out into the open and hurled it back at the enemy. Although painfully wounded when the grenade exploded as it left his hand, and again forced to seek the protection of the bunker when the hostile fire became more intensified, Private Kelso refused to remain in his position of comparative safety and moved out into the fire-swept area to return the enemy fire, thereby permitting the pinned-down Marines in the bunker to escape. Mortally wounded while providing covering fire for his comrades, Private Kelso, by his valiant fighting spirit, aggressive determination and self-sacrificing efforts in behalf of others, served to inspire all who observed him. His heroic actions sustain and enhance the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country."

/s/ DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

The President of the United States in the name of The Congress takes pride in presenting the MEDAL OF HONOR posthumously to

STAFF SERGEANT WILLIAM E. SHUCK, JR,  
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS,

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

"For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a Squad Leader of Company G, Third Battalion, Seventh Marines, First Marine Division (Reinforced), in action against enemy aggressor forces in Korea on 3 July 1952. When his platoon was subjected to a devastating barrage of enemy small-arms, grenade, artillery and mortar fire during an assault against strongly fortified hill positions well forward of the main line of resistance, Staff Sergeant Shuck, although painfully wounded, refused medical attention and continued to lead his machine-gun squad in the attack. Unhesitatingly assuming command of a rifle squad when the leader became a casualty, he skillfully organized the two squads into an attacking force and led two more daring assaults upon the hostile positions. Wounded a second time, he steadfastly refused evacuation and remained in the foremost position under heavy fire until assured that all dead and wounded were evacuated. Mortally wounded by an enemy sniper bullet while voluntarily assisting in the removal of the last casualty, Staff Sergeant Shuck, by his fortitude and great personal valor in the face of overwhelming odds, served to inspire all who observed him. His unyielding courage throughout reflects the highest credit upon himself and the United States Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country."

/s/ DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER



The President of the United States in the name of The Congress takes pride in presenting the MEDAL OF HONOR posthumously to

SECOND LIEUTENANT SHERROD E. SKINNER, JR.,  
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS RESERVE

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

"For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty as an Artillery Forward Observer of Battery F, Second Battalion, Eleventh Marines, First Marine Division (Reinforced), in action against enemy aggressor forces in Korea on the night of 26 October 1952. When his observation post in an extremely critical and vital sector of the main line of resistance was subjected to a sudden and fanatical attack by hostile forces, supported by a devastating barrage of artillery and mortar fire which completely severed communication lines connecting the outposts with friendly firing batteries, Second Lieutenant Skinner, in a determined effort to hold his position, immediately organized and directed the surviving personnel in the defense of the outpost, continuing to call down fire on the enemy by means of radio alone until this equipment became damaged beyond repair. Undaunted by the intense hostile barrage and the rapidly closing attackers, he twice left the protection of his bunker in order to direct accurate machine-gun fire and to replenish the depleted supply of ammunition and grenades. Although painfully wounded on each occasion, he steadfastly refused medical aid until the rest of the men received treatment. As the ground attack reached its climax, he gallantly directed the final defense until the meager supply of ammunition was exhausted and the position overrun. During the three hours that the outpost was occupied by the enemy, several grenades were thrown into the bunker which served as protection for Second Lieutenant Skinner and his remaining comrades. Realizing that there was no chance for other than passive resistance, he directed his men to feign death even though the hostile troops entered the bunker and searched their persons. Later when an enemy grenade was thrown between him and two other survivors, he immediately threw himself on the deadly missile in an effort to protect the others, absorbing the full force of the explosion and sacrificing his life for his comrades. By his indomitable fighting spirit, superb leadership and great personal valor in the face of tremendous odds, Second Lieutenant Skinner served to inspire his fellow Marines in their heroic stand against the enemy and upheld the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country."

/s/ DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER