

requirements (see annual catalog, United States Military Academy).

(Sec. 3741, 70A Stat. 215; 10 U.S.C. 3741)

[21 FR 7672, Oct. 6, 1956, as amended at 29 FR 527, Jan. 22, 1964; 35 FR 9279, June 13, 1970]

§ 578.5 Distinguished Service Cross.

(a) *Criteria.* The Distinguished Service Cross, established by Act of Congress 9 July 1918 (amended by Act of 25 July 1963), is awarded to a person who, while serving in any capacity with the Army, distinguishes himself by extraordinary heroism not justifying the award of a Medal of Honor while engaged in an action against an enemy of the United States, while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing force, or while serving with friendly foreign forces engaged in an armed conflict against an opposing armed force in which the United States is not a belligerent party (figure 1). The act or acts of heroism must have been so notable and have involved risk of life so extraordinary as to set the individual apart from his comrades.

(b) *Description.* A cross of bronze 2 inches in height and $1\frac{3}{16}$ inches in width with an eagle on the center and a scroll below the eagle bearing the inscription "For Valor." On the reverse, the center of the cross is circled by a wreath. The cross is suspended by a ring from moired silk ribbon, $\frac{3}{8}$ inches in length and $\frac{1}{8}$ inches in width, composed of a band of red ($\frac{1}{8}$ -inch), white ($\frac{1}{16}$ -inch), blue (1-inch), white ($\frac{1}{16}$ -inch), and red ($\frac{1}{8}$ -inch).

(Sec. 3742, 70A Stat. 215; 10 U.S.C. 3742)

[21 FR 7672, Oct. 6, 1956, as amended at 29 FR 527, Jan. 22, 1964]

§ 578.6 Distinguished Service Medal.

(a) *Criteria.* (1) The Distinguished Service Medal, established by Act of Congress on July 9, 1918, is awarded to any person who, while serving in any capacity with the Army of the United States, shall have distinguished himself or herself by exceptionally meritorious service to the Government in a duty of great responsibility (Fig. 1). The performance must be such as to merit recognition for service which is clearly exceptional. Superior perform-

ance of normal duty will not alone justify an award of this decoration.

(2) For service not related to actual war the term "duty of great responsibility" applies to a narrower range of positions than in time of war, and requires evidence of conspicuously significant achievement. However, justification of the award may accrue by virtue of exceptionally meritorious service in a succession of high positions of great importance.

(3) Awards may be made to persons other than members of the Armed Forces of the United States for wartime services only, and then only under exceptional circumstances with the express approval of the President, in each case.

(b) *Description.* The coat of arms of the United States in bronze surrounded by a circle of dark-blue enamel $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, bearing the inscription "For Distinguished Service MCMXVIII." On the reverse, a blank scroll upon a trophy of flags and weapons. The medal is suspended by a bar from a moired silk ribbon, $\frac{1}{8}$ inches in length and $\frac{1}{8}$ inches in width, composed of a band of scarlet ($\frac{5}{8}$ -inch), a stripe of dark-blue ($\frac{1}{16}$ -inch), a band of white ($\frac{5}{8}$ -inch), a stripe of dark-blue ($\frac{1}{16}$ -inch), and a band of scarlet ($\frac{5}{16}$ -inch).

(Sec. 3743, 70A Stat. 216; 10 U.S.C. 3743)

§ 578.7 Silver Star.

(a) *Criteria.* The Silver Star, established by Act of Congress 9 July 1918 (amended by Act of 25 July 1963), is awarded to a person who, while serving in any capacity with the Army, is cited for gallantry in action that does not warrant a Medal of Honor or Distinguished Service Cross while engaged in an action against an enemy of the United States, while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force, or while serving with friendly foreign forces engaged in an armed conflict against an opposing armed force in which the United States is not a belligerent party (figure 1). The required gallantry, while of lesser degree than that required for the award of the Medal of Honor or Distinguished Service Cross, must nevertheless have been performed with marked distinction. It is also awarded

upon letter application to The Adjutant General to those individuals who, while serving in any capacity with the Army, received a citation for gallantry in action in World War I published in orders issued by the headquarters of a general officer.

(b) *Description.* A bronze star 1½ inches in circumscribing diameter. In the center thereof is a ¾-inch diameter raised silver star, the center lines of all rays of both stars coinciding. The reverse has the inscription "For Gallantry in Action." The star is suspended by a rectangular-shaped metal loop with corners rounded from a moired silk ribbon 1⅝ inches in length and 1⅜ inches in width, composed of stripes of blue (⅜-inch), white (⅜-inch), blue (⅜-inch), white (⅜-inch), red (⅜-inch), white (⅜-inch), blue (⅜-inch), white (⅜-inch), and blue (⅜-inch).

(Sec. 3746, 70A Stat. 216; 10 U.S.C. 3746)

[21 FR 7672, Oct. 6, 1956, as amended at 29 FR 527, Jan. 22, 1964]

§ 578.8 Legion of Merit.

The Legion of Merit, established by Act of Congress July 20, 1942, is awarded to any member of the Armed Forces of the United States or of a friendly foreign nation who has distinguished himself or herself by exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services. See figure 1.

(a) *Criteria for Armed Forces of the United States.* (1) The performance must have been such as to merit recognition of key individuals for service rendered in a clearly exceptional manner. Superior performance of duties normal to the grade, branch, specialty, or assignment, and experience of an individual is not an adequate basis for this award.

(2) For service not related to actual war, the term "key individuals" applies to a narrower range of positions than in time of war and requires evidence of significant achievement. Such service, performed in peacetime, should be in the nature of a special requirement or the performance of an extremely difficult duty in an unprecedented and clearly exceptional manner. However, justification of the award may accrue by virtue of exceptionally

meritorious service in a succession of important positions.

(3) The accomplishment of the duty should have been completed prior to submitting a recommendation, or if the person being recommended has been transferred prior to completion, the accomplishment must have progressed to what may be clearly determined to be an exceptional degree.

(4) Awards will be made without reference to degree and for each such award, the Legion of Merit (Legionnaire) will be issued.

(b) *Criteria for armed forces of foreign nations.* (1) See AR 672-7 (Army Regulations pertaining to Legion of Merit for foreign nationals).

(2) Each award will be made in one of the following degrees, which are listed in order or rank:

- (i) Chief Commander.
- (ii) Commander.
- (iii) Officer.
- (iv) Legionnaire.

(3) Awards of this decoration in the degrees of Chief Commander and Commander are comparable to awards of the Distinguished-Service Medal and the standards prescribed in § 578.6 (a) will be applied in considering such awards.

(4) Awards in the lesser degrees of this decoration are comparable to awards of the Legion of Merit to members of the Armed Forces of the United States and the standards prescribed in paragraph (a) of this section are applicable.

(5) Second or succeeding awards of this decoration will be in the same or a higher degree than the previous award.

(c) *Description*—(1) *Chief Commander.* A domed five-pointed American white star plaque of heraldic form bordered in purplish-red enamel 2⅜ inches circumscribing diameter with 13 white stars on a blue field emerging from a circle of clouds; backing the star, a laurel wreath with pierced, crossed arrows pointing outward between each arm of the star and the wreath. The reverse is engraved with the words "United States of America."

(2) *Commander.* A five-pointed American white star of heraldic form bordered in purplish-red enamel 2¼ inches circumscribing diameter with 13 white stars on a blue field emerging from a