

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
MILITARY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
STATE ARMOY, HARTFORD, CONN., 06115

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 17

21 May 1971

AWARD OF MEDAL OF VALOR

Upon the recommendation of a board of officers appointed in accordance with Section 27-72, General Statutes, State of Connecticut, the Medal of Valor is awarded to Major (then Master Sergeant) Edward F. Madigan, (REDACTED), Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 169th Infantry, for conspicuous gallantry, at the risk of his own life, on 19 August 1955 while in the military service of the State.

C I T A T I O N

Major (then Master Sergeant) Edward F. Madigan displayed outstanding courage, above and beyond the call of duty, while engaged in flood duty operations along the rampaging Farmington River between Farmington and Unionville.

Major Madigan was a crew member of an amphibious vehicle which had been directed to proceed from Hartford to Winsted to assist in rescue operations in that area. As the vehicle passed Farmington, however, many calls for help were received from persons stranded on rooftops and nearby high ground. The commander of the amphibious vehicle deviated from the plan and proceeded with his crew to rescue as many people as possible.

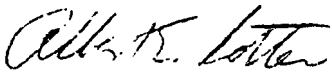
On several occasions during the rescue operations Major Madigan, with complete disregard for his own safety, plunged into the raging flood waters and carried terror-stricken women and children to the safety of the amphibious vehicle. On one occasion, as he was carrying a child in his arms, he stepped into a hole and, though his head was completely submerged, he held the child above the water in his extended arms until he regained his footing. During a very short period of time Major Madigan, and other crew members, rescued twenty-four people from the flood.

Major Madigan's exemplary actions under conditions of extreme emergency reflect great credit upon himself and the Connecticut Army National Guard.

BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR:

OFFICIAL:

E. DONALD WALSH
Major General
The Adjutant General


ALBERT E. COTTER
Brigadier General
Assistant Adjutant General

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