



The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, July 20, 1942, has awarded the Legion of Merit to

BRIGADIER GENERAL RICHARD T. KNOWLES
UNITED STATES ARMY

for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services.

Brigadier General Richard T. Knowles, 035418, United States Army, distinguished himself by his eminently meritorious service in positions of responsibility during the period February 1963 to June 1965 while serving as Commanding Officer, Division Artillery and as Assistant Division Commander, 11th Air Assault Division, Fort Benning, Georgia. His leadership, imagination, and unmatched enthusiasm were instrumental to immeasurably increasing the range and scope of artillery operations through the realization of the air mobile concept. Given a small nucleus of officers and men generally unfamiliar with the initial steps in the development of an air mobile concept, he built a magnificent combined ground and aerial platform artillery team that extended the impact of firepower to unprecedented distances. His untiring efforts to find new and more efficient ways of doing things led to many new innovations in techniques and equipment. His leadership of division elements during Air Assault II was superb, his enthusiasm contagious and his zeal inspiring to all. His management abilities, keen insight, and mature judgment were applied to a great variety of problems for which he found imaginative and workable solutions. Brigadier General Knowles' exceptionally meritorious service was instrumental to the attainment of combat developments objectives of great importance to the United States Army and to the increased effectiveness of the Nation's armed forces. His distinguished performance of duty throughout this period reflected the greatest credit upon himself and the military service.

