

GENERAL ORDER }
No. 504. }

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, December 13, 1898.

The Department publishes for the information of the service the following correspondence in regard to the conduct of Sergt. John H. Quick, U. S. Marine Corps:

U. S. MARINE BARRACKS,
Navy Yard, Washington, D. C., November 28, 1898.

SIR: 1. In obedience to Article 890, having reference to Articles 896 and 897, Navy Regulations, I have the honor to report as follows:

2. Sergt. John H. Quick, U. S. Marines, while serving as third sergeant of of "C" company, First Battalion Marines, in Cuba, distinguished himself in battle, showing gallantry under the following circumstances:

3. Two companies and a half under my command, on detached service, were engaged in an offensive fight, on June 14, 1898, at Cuzco, some 5 miles from the main camp. The entire firing line being engaged were kneeling or lying down, occupying the sharp crest of a steep hill: the enemy (at this stage of the fight) were in the valley, but were concealed by bushes. It was deemed advisable to signal the U. S. S. *Dolphin* on three occasions, asking that she would throw shells into the valley, etc., in order to make the enemy move so that we could see to shoot them, they having been driven to shelter by our fire. Sergeant Quick volunteered to signal, using a dark blue flag belonging to the Cubans. After a trial of twenty minutes, it was found impossible for the U. S. S. *Dolphin* to read the signal against the background, and that it was necessary to make it from the crest of the hill, so that the flag would show against the sky. Sergeant Quick on each occasion stood fairly on the crest, his back to the enemy, a number of whom opened fire, and made his signal as coolly as if on a parade ground; bullets drifted by him, and some cut the dust near his feet, of which he must have been conscious. When a signal was ended, the Sergeant, remaining on the same ground, would kneel and fire.

4. Personally, I think of no words that express his action so well as that it was beautiful.

5. I respectfully recommend that Sergeant Quick be granted a medal, of such a class as the Honorable Secretary of the Navy may see fit to adjudge.

Very respectfully,

G. F. ELLIOTT,
Captain, U. S. M. C., Commanding Marines.

The SECRETARY OF THE NAVY,
Navy Department, Washington, D. C.

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First endorsement.

U. S. NAVY YARD,
Washington, D. C., November 26, 1898.

Approved and respectfully referred to the Secretary of the Navy, via the Colonel Commandant of the U. S. Marine Corps.

Sergt. J. H. Quick is now at this yard.

A. H. MCCORMICK,
Captain, U. S. N., Commandant.

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Second endorsement.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. MARINE CORPS,
Washington, D. C., December 2, 1898.

1. Approved and respectfully forwarded to the Secretary of the Navy.

2. The within-described action of Sergt. John H. Quick, U. S. Marine Corps, seems to have been one of extraordinary heroism and gallantry performed in the line of his profession, and to entitle him to the medal of honor provided for in Article 897 of the Navy Regulations.

CHARLES HEYWOOD,
Colonel Commandant.

The Department highly commends the cool and gallant conduct of Sergt. John H. Quick and awards to him a medal of honor.

CHAS. H. ALLEN,
Acting Secretary.