

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 79

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, 25, D. C., 11 September 1951

DISTINGUISHED UNIT CITATION—Citation of units _____ Section
MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION—Awards _____ I
II

*Amended by
EO 54,
1957*

1. DISTINGUISHED UNIT CITATION.—As authorized by Executive Order 9396 (sec. I, WD Bul. 22, 1943), superseding Executive Order 9075 (sec. III, WD Bul. 11, 1942), citation of the following units in the general orders indicated is confirmed in accordance with AR 260-15 in the name of the President of the United States as public evidence of deserved honor and distinction. The citation reads as follows:

The *1st Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, 3d Infantry Division*, and the following attached units:

Intelligence and Reconnaissance Platoon, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 7th Infantry Regiment;

1st Platoon, Medical Company, 7th Infantry Regiment;

3d Platoon, Heavy Tank Company, 7th Infantry Regiment;

1st Platoon, Heavy Mortar Company, 7th Infantry Regiment,

are cited for outstanding performance of duty and extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy near Choksong, Korea, during the period 23 to 25 April 1951. On the morning of 23 April, the *1st Battalion* was given the mission of cleaning out enemy pockets in the rear and on the right and left flanks of the 29th British Independent Brigade. After fighting fiercely the entire day, the battalion was ordered to attack an enemy force estimated to be composed of two regiments which had forced the withdrawal of friendly troops resulting in the entrapment of the Belgian United Nations Battalion. Under intense enemy small-arms, automatic-weapons, mortar, and artillery fire, the battalion launched a night attack which was pressed with such aggressiveness, determination, and skill that the enemy was required to commit his entire force to meet the onslaught, thereby relieving pressure on the Belgian Battalion and allowing them to withdraw all equipment and vehicles. Following the withdrawal of the Belgian Battalion, and although surrounded on three sides by enemy troops, the *1st Battalion* immediately started a brilliantly executed disengagement. The *1st Battalion* inflicted such staggering losses on the enemy that he was unable to continue action in that area. On the afternoon of 24 April, the battalion, after a movement of some 15 miles, took up positions of the 7th Infantry Regiment's main line of resistance with the mission of holding a sector of this line. During the night of 24-25 April, the enemy hurled the might of two whole divisions against the 7th Infantry Regiment's front. Although the enemy had succeeded in infiltrating to the rear of the battalion and its right flank was completely exposed, the *1st Battalion* and attached units fought with magnificent tenacity and courage, holding in line until all other units of the 3d Infantry Division had withdrawn. When ordered, the battalion withdrew under a series of enemy attacks. This gallant unit killed over 3,000 enemy troops and wounded an estimated 5,500 of the enemy. The *1st Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, 3d Infantry Division*, and attached units displayed such gallantry, determination, skill, and esprit de corps in accomplishing their mission under extremely difficult and hazardous conditions as to set them apart and above other units participating in the action, and reflect great credit on each courageous soldier thereof and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 560, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 19 July 1951.*)

II. MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION.—By direction of the Secretary of the Army, under AR 280-15, the Meritorious Unit Commendation is awarded to the following units of the United States Army for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service during the periods indicated. The citations read as follows:

1. The *3d Station Hospital* (known as the 8054th Evacuation Hospital, Semi-mobile, from 1 July to 10 December 1950) is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in Korea in support of combat operations during the period 1 July 1950 to 1 February 1951. This unit operated efficiently under all conditions and difficulties, maintaining high standards of medical service to front-line combat elements and to units in the surrounding area. Combining such commendable attributes as high devotion to duty, ingenious improvisation of existing facilities, and a thorough knowledge of the job to be done paralleled by the extreme in skillful application, this hospital has admitted and treated over 50,000 patients. While operating as a 400-bed evacuation hospital, this unit, by maintaining great flexibility, was capable of expanding its facilities to such an extent that even the heaviest stream of casualties was efficiently admitted and treated with the minimum in loss of life. After being reorganized as a 500-bed station hospital, the high standards of medical service continued to be maintained by this unit. The *3d Station Hospital* displayed such outstanding devotion and superior performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart and above other units with similar missions. The skill, effectiveness, and outstanding meritorious conduct of every member of this hospital in the performance of their vital services reflect great credit on themselves, the Army Medical Service, and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 540, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 12 July 1951.*)

2. *Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 66th Ordnance Battalion*, is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in Korea in support of combat operations during the period 27 July 1950 to 26 July 1951. This detachment planned, organized, and furnished technical and administrative supervision of field maintenance and supply for Eighth Army and IX Corps in the early phases of the Pusan Perimeter and the subsequent repelling of the Communist forces. Later, in the northwestern offensive and in the withdrawal to south Korea, this detachment consistently performed very difficult assignments in an exceptional manner, contributing materially to the success of IX Corps. *Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 66th Ordnance Battalion*, displayed such outstanding devotion and superior performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart and above other units with similar missions. The ability, determination, and esprit de corps of the members of this unit reflect great credit on themselves, the Ordnance Corps, and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 629, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 10 August 1951.*)

3. The *272d Signal Construction Company* is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in Korea in support of combat operations during the period 11 November 1950 to 11 May 1951. During the early part of the period, the company performed signal construction missions for X Corps in North Korea in the critical evacuation from the Hungnam and Hamhung area. Because of tactical reverses, the unit was forced to destroy certain signal installations, yet recovered quantities of critical wire before being forced to evacuate. Subsequently, this company performed many signal construction missions in central Korea for IX Corps and Eighth Army over extremely difficult terrain and under adverse weather conditions. Often

performing its missions at great personal discomfort and safety, the company overcame shortages of proper signal supplies and unwarranted wear and tear on its unit transportation by field expedients. *The 272d Signal Construction Company* displayed such outstanding devotion and superior performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart and above other units with similar missions. The high degree of skill, morale, and determination with which the members of this organization performed their duties reflect great credit on themselves, the Signal Corps, and military service of the United States. (*General Orders 534, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 10 July 1951.*)

4. The *512th Engineer Dump Truck Company* is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service in Korea in support of combat operations during the period 5 November 1950 to 25 May 1951. During this period, the company was assigned missions in support of the Engineer Construction Group, 8224th Army Unit, as well as separate missions regarding logistical supply and road improvement and maintenance. The company functioned as a highly efficient team to overcome all obstacles met, and accomplished every mission assigned. The support rendered in November and December in the Koto-ri pocket, North Korea, and during the construction of emergency airfields at Hamhung and Hungnam was especially noteworthy. During the period February to May, this company contributed materially to the success of the military operations of X Corps by undertaking, in addition to normal activities, varying amounts of road maintenance and improvements. Also, during April, this company did necessary work to set up and operate needed facilities in support of engineer missions during a critical period. The *512th Engineer Dump Truck Company* displayed such outstanding devotion and superior performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart and above other units with similar missions. The superior standard of outstanding achievements by this unit reflects great credit on itself, its individual members, the Corps of Engineers, and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 506, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 3 July 1951.*)

5. The *515th Transportation Truck Company* is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in Korea in support of combat operations during the period 7 November 1950 to 6 May 1951. The company operated with marked efficiency and devotion to duty during the period specified, furnishing highway transport support for the X Corps and its attached combat elements. Despite the extreme conditions imposed by subzero weather, difficult terrain, and supply shortages, further aggravated by almost constant exposure to enemy action, this unit successfully transported 28,682 troops and 23,241 tons of supplies, traveling a total of 1,021,170 miles in the accomplishment of its mission. Particular worthy of note is the performance of the *515th Transportation Truck Company* during operations at Hamhung where a platoon of this unit, cut off by the enemy for a period of 2 weeks, successfully continued its mission despite casualties and loss of equipment to enemy action. Also outstanding were subsequent operations of this unit in support of the 7th Infantry and 1st Marine Divisions at Hungnam, Tangyang, Wonju, and from Pyonggang to Hamgye. The *515th Transportation Truck Company* displayed such outstanding devotion and superior performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart and above other units with similar missions. The morale, discipline, and determination exhibited by the members of this unit reflect credit on themselves, the Transportation Corps, and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 534, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 10 July 1951.*)

6. *Headquarters and Headquarters Company, United Nations Reception Center, 8212th Army Unit*, is cited for exceptional meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in Korea in support of combat operations during the period 5 October 1950 to 5 April 1951. The unit, organized and activated in a minimum of time and with an exceedingly small cadre, was assigned the vital mission of receiving troop units of other member nations of the United Nations, and equipping and training them preparatory to participating in combat as integral units of the United Nations Command. Despite the critical and continued shortages of personnel and equipment, this unit received and processed troop units of eight nationalities, a total of approximately 10,000 troops. During this time, this unit also conducted as coordinate activities the material assistance in the redeployment of the X Corps, the retraining of over 300 United States troops screened from service units in Korea, received and processed over 300 replacement troops of two United Nations member nations, as well as making four successive moves and setting up four new camp sites complete with facilities to continue the assigned mission. *Headquarters and Headquarters Company, United Nations Reception Center, 8212th Army Unit*, displayed such outstanding devotion and superior performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart and above other units with similar missions. The efficiency, loyal teamwork, and determination displayed by each member of this unit reflect credit on themselves and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 556, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 17 July 1951.*)

7. *Headquarters Company, Eighth United States Army, Korea*, is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in Korea and Japan in support of combat operations during the period 26 June 1950 to 31 January 1951. Throughout this period, *Headquarters Company* moved the headquarters of the Eighth United States Army from Yokohama, Japan, to Korea and set up forward, main, and rear command posts at numerous locations. Because of the rapidly changing tactical situation, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, has been operational at seven different locations during this 7-month period. This required *Headquarters Company* in each case to clear areas, prepare office and living space, and install and service stoves during the winter months. Exemplary transportation, mess, and administrative facilities for approximately 1,200 personnel were provided without fail. This unit also assisted in the vital security for the semihostile areas occupied by Headquarters, Eighth United States Army. At numerous times, the headquarters has been operational at three echelons at the same time and in one instance four. To accomplish this, the unit was stripped to a bare minimum and operated under hazardous and extremely adverse conditions. *Headquarters Company, Eighth United States Army, Korea*, displayed such outstanding devotion and superior performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart and above other units with similar missions. The ingenuity, resourcefulness, and attention to duty by members of this unit reflect great credit on themselves and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 550, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 16 July 1951.*)

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

OFFICIAL:

WM. E. BERGIN
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

J. LAWTON COLLINS
Chief of Staff, United States Army

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