

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 105

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C., 26 November 1952

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 220-315 in the name of the President of the United States as public evidence of deserved honor and distinction. The citation reads as follows:

The 2d Battalion, 7th Infantry, and the 2d Battalion, 15th Infantry, 3d Infantry Division, and the following attached units:

*1st Platoon, Tank Company, 7th Infantry;
3d Platoon, Tank Company, 7th Infantry;
2d Platoon, Heavy Mortar Company, 7th Infantry;
Intelligence and Reconnaissance Platoon, 7th Infantry;
Battle Patrol, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 7th Infantry;
Counterfire Platoon, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 7th Infantry;
2d Medical Platoon, Medical Company, 7th Infantry;
2d Litter Section, Medical Company, 7th Infantry;
2d Ambulance Section, Medical Company, 7th Infantry;
2d Wire Team, Communications Platoon, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 15th Infantry;
2d Platoon, Heavy Mortar Company, 15th Infantry;
Antitank Mine Platoon, 15th Infantry;
Liaison Section 2, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 10th Field Artillery Battalion;
Forward Observation teams 35, 36, and 37, Battery B, 10th Field Artillery Battalion;
Liaison Section 2, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 39th Field Artillery Battalion;
Forward Observation Teams 35, 36, and 37, Battery B, 39th Field Artillery Battalion,*

are cited for outstanding performance of duty and extraordinary heroism in action against the enemy in the vicinity of Kowang-ni, Korea, during the period 23 to 25 November 1951. On 23 November, the *2d Battalion, 7th Infantry*, moved into defensive positions on a hill which was of vital importance to the cease-fire talks then in progress. Soon after assuming responsibility for this sector, the battalion was subjected to a heavy barrage of mortar and artillery fire as a prelude to a full-scale enemy attack. Shortly thereafter, an estimated two regiments of the enemy were observed moving fanatically through their own supporting fire in an assault against the friendly positions. Wave after wave of the hostile troops came charging up the slope, only to be beaten back by the heavy fire poured into their ranks by the friendly force. The enemy, determined to take their objective at all costs, concentrated five battalions at one sector of the defense line and, under this tremendous pressure, one of the friendly companies was forced to execute a limited withdrawal to save itself from total annihilation. Although masses of the enemy were hurling themselves at the entire friendly line, the defenders, fighting fiercely against heavy odds, held them back except for this single penetration. The *2d Battalion, 15th Infantry*, was immediately ordered to move forward and block the hostile troops attempting to push through the gap in the defense line. Upon reaching the area, one company immediately launched a spirited counterattack. Despite the heavy

fire pouring down on them from all sides, the friendly troops pushed the enemy back steadily until the heavy casualties inflicted on them by the numerically superior hostile force made it necessary for them to halt their advance and occupy defensive positions on a newly won ridge. Another friendly company quickly moved through these positions and continued the attack until the enemy was repulsed and the breach in the friendly defense was closed. At this point, a fresh assault company advanced through the other two, who were in the process of consolidating their positions, and drove the enemy completely from the area with heavy casualties. The hostile force immediately launched a fierce counterattack but the friendly troops, exhibiting a matchless fighting spirit, repulsed the enemy repeatedly. Finally, seriously weakened by the tremendous casualties they had suffered, the hostile troops retreated, completely frustrated in their attempt to force the friendly troops from the strategic hill. In this action, approximately 2,000 of the enemy were killed, approximately 3,000 wounded, and 8 taken prisoner. The *2d Battalion, 7th Infantry*, and the *2d Battalion, 15th Infantry, 3d Infantry Division*, and attached units displayed such superlative effectiveness in accomplishing their mission under extremely difficult and hazardous conditions as to set them apart and above other units participating in the action. The extraordinary heroism, singleness of purpose, and esprit de corps exhibited by the members of these units reflect great credit on themselves and are in keeping with the most esteemed traditions of the military service. (*General Orders 259, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 21 May 1952.*)

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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