

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 19

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C., 19 February 1953

MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION.—By direction of the Secretary of the Army, under AR 220-315, the Meritorious Unit Commendation is awarded to the following units of the United States Army and the Republic of Korea Army for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service during the periods indicated. The citations read as follows:

1. *Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3d Transportation Military Railway Service* (fourth award), is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in support of combat operations in Korea during the period 1 April 1951 to 21 August 1952. This company efficiently exercised full operational control over the Korean National Railways, successfully coordinating the activities of its subordinate units with those of approximately 30,000 Korean employees. In order to accomplish its mission with the greatest possible effectiveness, the company supervised the rapid rehabilitation of many miles of trackage, the reconstruction of innumerable demolished railroad bridges, and the constant maintenance of antiquated rolling equipment. By establishing a system of grade-crossing protection by watchmen, the company greatly increased safety and almost entirely eliminated grade-crossing accidents. As a result of the ability and diligence of the company's members, up to 250,000 military personnel were transported monthly by rail, in addition to vast quantities of badly needed equipment and supplies. *Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3d Transportation Military Railway Service*, displayed such outstanding devotion to duty in the performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart from and above other units with similar missions. The technical proficiency, high degree of skill, and uncompromising determination of purpose exhibited by the members of this company reflect great credit on themselves and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 811, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 30 December 1952.*)

2. *The 7th Signal Company, 7th Infantry Division* (third award), is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in support of combat operations in Korea during the period 18 September 1951 to 30 September 1952. Despite the many obstacles resulting from field conditions in a combat zone, this company provided superior communications for all elements of the division and rendered unusually effective logistical signal support to front-line units. In addition to laying hundreds of miles of wire, the construction platoon of the company salvaged a total of over 11,000 miles of field wire and thousands of wire drums, thereby effecting a total saving to the United States Government of almost 1½ million dollars. Concurrently, the platoon maintained more miles of wire circuits than normally are maintained by a battalion. Radio relay personnel established highly efficient circuits between points where communication previously had been considered an impossibility, and the company's photo section provided still and motion picture photographs which were selected for permanent display at the Department of the Army and were incorporated into Armed Forces newsreels. In all assignments, personnel of the company carried out their duties in a manner which earned them the praise of higher headquarters and enhanced the division's success as it engaged in active combat with the enemy. *The 7th Signal Company, 7th Infantry Division*, displayed such outstanding devotion to duty in the performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart from and above other units with similar missions. The resourcefulness, ability, and outstand-

ing technical proficiency exhibited by the members of this company reflect great credit on themselves and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 813, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 31 December 1952.*)

3. The 11th Company, 103d Military Police Battalion, Republic of Korea Army, is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in support of combat operations in Korea during the period 1 December 1950 to 30 November 1952. Organized during a critical period of operations, the company was assigned the mission of providing protection and traffic control for vital supply routes, controlling refugees, and supporting combat units. Despite a shortage of necessary supplies and equipment, it carried out its assignment with a high degree of efficiency. Because of a fluid tactical situation, the members of the company were forced to travel long distances in extreme weather through areas infested with guerrillas. On one occasion, the company was completely surrounded by the enemy, but fought its way out of the trap with aggressive determination and immediately resumed the performance of its assigned duties. Later, given the mission of rendering military police protection to the city of Seoul, the company's personnel worked tirelessly to control traffic, enforce military regulations, and provide a variety of similar essential services. In all assignments, the company met its responsibilities in a manner which earned it the praise of qualified observers and enhanced the efficiency of units engaged in active combat with the enemy. The 11th Company, 103d Military Police Battalion, Republic of Korea Army, displayed such outstanding devotion to duty in the performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart from and above other units with similar missions. The initiative, resourcefulness, and esprit de corps displayed by the members of this company reflect great credit on themselves and the military service of the Republic of Korea. (*General Orders 10, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 4 January 1953.*)

4. Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 23d Quartermaster Group, is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in support of combat operations in Korea during the period 1 April to 30 October 1952. Working tirelessly, the members of this company supervised and coordinated the administration, supply, and operations of 12 class I and III quartermaster supply points and of 5 salvage collecting points operating in direct support of United Nations combat forces. Under the company's direction, subordinate organizations issued vast quantities of essential subsistence items and millions of gallons of petroleum products to front-line units. In addition, the salvage collecting points dispatched well over 1,000 rail cars of salvaged items, thereby resulting in substantial savings to the United States Government. With elements of the group dispersed over a wide area, the company's personnel traveled long distances over hazardous roads in order to bring about the highest possible standard of administrative efficiency. In all its operations, the company overcame formidable obstacles to insure a continuous and adequate flow of essential supplies to units engaged in active combat with the enemy. Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 23d Quartermaster Group, displayed such outstanding devotion to duty in the performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart from and above other units with similar missions. The diligence, ability, and determination of purpose exhibited by the members of this company reflect great credit on themselves and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 809, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 30 December 1952.*)

5. The *43d Transportation Truck Company* (second award) is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in support of combat operations in Korea during the period 1 February to 31 July 1952. Operating over rough and hazardous roads under adverse weather conditions, vehicles from this company carried over 300,000 tons of cargo and more than 40,000 passengers many thousands of miles. Through diligence and resourcefulness, the members of the company, overcoming obstacles caused by inadequate repair facilities and a shortage of necessary parts, kept standards of vehicle maintenance at an unusually high level. On one occasion, the company played an important part in a tactical move which involved transporting two entire combat divisions to new positions in an 8-day period. Despite innumerable problems, the important assignment was completed without accident or serious mechanical failure. The *43d Transportation Truck Company* displayed such outstanding devotion to duty in the performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart from and above other units with similar missions. The resourcefulness, ability, and determination of purpose exhibited by the members of this company reflect great credit on themselves and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 49, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 8 January 1953.*)

6. *Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 52d Medical Battalion (Separate)* (second award), is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in support of combat operations in Korea during the period 1 February to 31 October 1952. Responsible for coordinating the operations of 15 company-sized medical units and 5 additional medical detachments, this detachment carried out its intricate assignment in an exemplary manner. Although units of the battalion were scattered throughout the combat zone, the detachment successfully provided necessary administration, logistical support, and operational control. In addition to directing the expeditious and efficient handling of over 175,000 patients from seven United Nations divisions, the detachment supervised the establishment and operation of medical facilities for thousands of prisoners of war in three widely separated camps. The outstanding ability and uncompromising determination of the detachment's personnel earned the praise of all those having knowledge of their superior performance and contributed to the saving of many lives and the alleviation of untold suffering. *Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 52d Medical Battalion (Separate)*, displayed such outstanding devotion to duty in the performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart from and above other units with similar missions. The resolution, skill, and esprit de corps exhibited by the members of this detachment reflect great credit on themselves and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 5, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 8 January 1953.*)

7. *Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 70th Transportation Truck Battalion* (second award), is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in support of combat operations in Korea during the period 1 May to 31 October 1952. Throughout this period, the company planned, supervised, and rendered logistical and administrative support to transportation truck companies engaged in hauling supplies and personnel for United Nations and Republic of Korea combat forces. With units of the battalion operating over extremely treacherous mountain roads under adverse conditions, effective vehicle maintenance became a matter of vital importance. Despite a shortage of spare parts, the members of this company, working tire-

lessly, kept vehicles in the best possible operating condition at all times. Working in close coordination with elements of allied forces in Korea, the company's personnel exhibited tactfulness, ability, and skill and did much to enhance the feeling of good will existing between the armed forces of the many nations. *Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 70th Transportation Truck Battalion*, displayed such outstanding devotion to duty in the performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart from and above other units with similar missions. The resourcefulness, high standard of excellence, and determination of purpose exhibited by the members of this company reflect great credit on themselves and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 9, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 4 January 1953.*)

8. The *79th Ordnance Battalion (Transportation)* is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in support of combat operations in Korea during the period 1 January to 30 September 1952. The only aircraft maintenance battalion of its kind in the United States Army, this battalion developed new operating procedures and established precedents for future units assigned the mission of providing logistical support for Army aircraft in combat. Understrength throughout this period, the battalion nevertheless effected a constant decrease in the number of aircraft grounded for maintenance or repair. The personnel of the battalion repeatedly risked their lives performing aerial flights to render effective support to front-line combat units. Battlefield evacuation of downed aircraft was accomplished under enemy fire and from uncharted mine fields under hazardous conditions. Discovering that ordinary equipment was inadequate for the performance of its specialized mission, the battalion ingeniously improvised such items as tools and jigs from available materials. In addition to carrying out their assigned duties in an exemplary manner, the members of the battalion trained a Republic of Korea Army aircraft maintenance company, constructing training materials and skillfully overcoming obstacles caused by differences in language and customs. The *79th Ordnance Battalion (Transportation)* displayed such outstanding devotion to duty in the performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart from and above other units. The resourcefulness, ability, and esprit de corps displayed by the members of this battalion reflect great credit on themselves and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 808, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 30 December 1952.*)

9. The *515th Transportation Truck Company* (second award) is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in support of combat operations in Korea during the period 1 May to 31 October 1952. Responsible for hauling supplies and equipment to front-line combat units, this company carried out its difficult assignment in an exemplary manner. Vehicle drivers frequently worked on a 24-hour daily basis to transport cargo and personnel many miles over rough terrain under extremely hazardous conditions. Often working under hostile artillery fire, the members of the company exhibited a skilled determination which insured the successful completion of all assignments and earned them the praise of all those having knowledge of their work. During this period, the company's members transported over 20,000 personnel and more than 25,000 tons of cargo a total distance of well over 500,000 miles. The *515th Transportation Truck Company* displayed such outstanding devotion to duty in the performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart from and above other units with similar missions. The initiative, esprit de corps, and determination of purpose exhibited by the members of this company reflect great credit

on themselves and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 11, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 4 January 1953.*)

10. The 629th Medical Clearing Company (*Separate*) (second award) is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in support of combat operations in Korea during the period 1 October 1951 to 30 June 1952. The members of this company worked tirelessly to evacuate battle casualties to medical installations rapidly and safely. Working in close coordination with elements of the United States Navy and the United States Air Force, the company was instrumental in the development of techniques for the evacuation of wounded from forward areas by helicopter. Despite adverse weather conditions which directly influenced air evacuation, the members of the company, through resourcefulness, diligence, and technical proficiency, carried out their assignment in an exemplary manner, successfully evacuating all patients from X United States Corps sector in addition to many other patients from two other corps. During this period, the company, operating understrength, cared for and processed approximately 23,000 casualties. The 629th Medical Clearing Company (*Separate*) displayed such outstanding devotion to duty in the performance of unusually difficult tasks as to set it apart from and above other units with similar missions. The medical skill and sincere regard for the well-being of those in their care exhibited by the members of this company reflect great credit on themselves and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 8, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 4 January 1953.*)

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

OFFICIAL:

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

J. LAWTON COLLINS
Chief of Staff, United States Army

DISTRIBUTION:

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