

GENERAL ORDERS
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DISTINGUISHED UNIT CITATION—Citation of units----- Section I
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I. DISTINGUISHED UNIT CITATION.—By direction of the President, under Executive Order 9806 (sec. I, WD Bul. 22, 1943), superseding Executive Order 9076 (sec. III, WD Bul. 11, 1942), and pursuant to authority in AR 220-315, the following units are cited as public evidence of deserved honor and distinction. The citations read as follows:

1. *The 1st Battalion, 9th Regiment, 11th Republic of Korea Army Division*, distinguished itself by extraordinary heroism in the performance of exceptionally difficult tasks in the vicinity of Tunnok-Tung, Korea. In the predawn darkness of 14 July 1953, the *1st Battalion*, then in reserve, received word of a possible enemy infiltration on the regimental left flank. Immediately, the unit moved in an arc to the left sector of the division area to investigate. Taking up positions, the friendly unit sent three patrols on a probing mission. Contact with a huge hostile force was reported immediately. Although there were no previously prepared defensive positions, the men of the battalion moved out along ridge lines and prepared to repulse the swiftly advancing foe. From exposed positions, they opened fire on masses of the charging enemy. At this point, contact with other friendly elements in the area was broken. Fearing that units to the north had been cut off and surrounded, the friendly troops, in a superbly coordinated effort, began to swing their defensive line in a sweeping maneuver to protect their hard-pressed comrades. As other friendly elements, then executing a strategic withdrawal to a new line of resistance, passed down from the north behind the *1st Battalion*, this unit continued to beat back repeated enemy assaults. Although their ammunition was all but exhausted, these gallant troops held their ground in the face of heavy artillery and mortar fire and repeated attacks by a numerically superior enemy. Throughout this maneuver, patrols were constantly moving out from the battalion. The only information as to the disposition of the enemy came from the *1st Battalion* and, based upon this intelligence, work began in an effort to organize the new defensive line to the battalion's rear. Time was essential to the successful completion of this action. Moving slowly back from hill to hill, the troops of the *1st Battalion* held the entire enemy force while their comrades consolidated. With only small-arms fire, they contested every foot of their withdrawal route to gain time. Although their casualties were heavy, the losses suffered by the hostile troops were tremendous. Finally, word was received that the new line of resistance had been formed, and the survivors of the *1st Battalion* moved back until they contacted the main body of the friendly force and took up defensive positions to help repulse the foe. Through their selfless and gallant efforts, the regiment was able to regroup and, despite the tremendous numerical superiority of the enemy, hold the new line against repeated onslaughts. The extraordinary heroism and unstinting devotion to duty displayed by each member of the *1st Battalion, 9th Regiment, 11th Republic of Korea Army Division*, throughout this critical action reflect the greatest credit on themselves and the Republic of Korea Army. (General Orders 755, Eighth United States Army, 16 August 1953.)

2. The *3d Company, 1st Battalion, 10th Infantry Regiment, 8th Republic of Korea Army Division*, distinguished itself by extraordinary heroism in the performance of exceptionally difficult tasks in the vicinity of Sae-mal, Korea. In the predawn hours of 10 July 1953, word was received that a possible approach route of the enemy was shielded by a hill lying directly across the Kumsong River. It was essential to take this hill and the *3d Company* was chosen for the task.

The river was running swift and deep and as the friendly troops made preparations to cross it, the foe became aware of their presence and immediately opened fire. Despite the continuous fusillade from across the river, the men of the *3d Company* began the crossing. Many of them died on the near bank and in the water. Those few who miraculously reached the opposite shore immediately regrouped and charged the objective. The hostile fire was intense, but the men of the *3d Company* continued and were soon engaged in hand-to-hand combat. Battling fiercely, vallant troops of the *3d Company* hit the foe again and again. Finally, after bitter fighting, the enemy was dislodged and the friendly force took up positions on the hill. The foe launched repeated counterattacks, but they were unable to throw back the men of the *3d Company*, who steadfastly held against the heaviest odds. The magnificent fighting spirit and unwavering devotion to duty displayed by the members of this unit served to set them distinctly apart from and above their contemporaries. The extraordinary heroism and matchless esprit de corps of the *3d Company, 1st Battalion, 10th Infantry Regiment, 8th Republic of Korea Army Division*, reflect the greatest credit on itself and the Republic of Korea Army. (*General Orders 756, Eighth United States Army, 16 August 1953.*)

3. The *3d Battalion, 21st Regiment, 8th Republic of Korea Army Division*, distinguished itself by extraordinary heroism in the performance of exceptionally difficult tasks in the vicinity of Pyoru, Korea. In the early morning hours of 19 July 1953, the *3d Battalion* was ordered to assault and secure a vital terrain feature which posed a serious threat to a wide sector of the friendly main line of resistance. Moving forward, the attacking troops were met by a heavy artillery barrage. Despite enemy shells bursting all about them, the friendly troops advanced doggedly until, reaching a predetermined line of departure, they charged. Moving directly into the intense fire pouring down from the heavily fortified hostile positions, many of the men fell, but their comrades pushed on until they reached the enemy and closed in hand-to-hand combat. Battling fiercely, the gallant troops of the *3d Battalion* inched their way toward the crest of the objective. They had almost reached it when the enemy detonated a series of explosive charges previously placed on the forward slope of the hill. The sudden explosion forced the friendly troops to withdraw a short distance. After regrouping, the men of the *3d Battalion* charged again with unabated spirit. Despite their magnificent effort, they were forced back again, but as soon as they gathered their strength, they surged forward. This attack left no doubt in the minds of the foe as to the relentless determination of the friendly force and the hostile troops began to weaken. Seizing every advantage, the men of the *3d Battalion* reached the enemy, closed in close combat, and took the objective from a totally demoralized foe. Despite repeated counterattacks, the friendly troops held the hill, thus eliminating a major tactical disadvantage. The extraordinary heroism and completely selfless devotion to duty displayed by the members of the *3d Battalion* throughout this bitter engagement served to set them apart from and above other units. The magnificent fighting spirit of the

3d Battalion, 21st Regiment, 8th Republic of Korea Army Division, reflects the greatest credit on itself and the Republic of Korea Army. (*General Orders 754, Eighth United States Army, 16 August 1953.*)

A. The *7th Company, 2d Battalion, 10th Infantry Regiment, 8th Republic of Korea Army Division*, distinguished itself by extraordinary heroism in the performance of exceptionally difficult tasks in the vicinity of Wondong-Myon, Korea. In the predawn darkness of 14 July 1953, the *7th Company*, occupying defensive positions of a vital outpost position, was suddenly subjected to a tremendous enemy artillery bombardment. The barrage proved a prelude to a full-scale attack by a huge hostile force. The men of the *7th Company* directed their entire firepower against the foe. Despite the heavy fire poured into the waves of charging enemy, their numbers were so great that they flowed about the friendly defensive positions and soon surrounded it. Immediately, the friendly troops formed a perimeter defense and proceeded to beat back the foe who were converging from all directions. The communication link with their parent unit was destroyed, but they held their post. These heroic troops repeatedly drove back the heaviest hostile attacks. Each time a leader fell, a new man stepped forward to take his place and direct the defense. The casualties suffered by the foe were tremendous, but they continued to charge, determined to destroy the small body of friendly troops. With enemy dead clustered all about their positions, the survivors of the *7th Company* received word that their courageous stand had granted other elements of the division the necessary time to regroup and form a new defensive line. These brave troops then left their positions, attacked the charging foe, and fought their way back across the friendly lines. The utter fearlessness and magnificent fighting spirit displayed by the members of the *7th Company, 2d Battalion, 10th Infantry Regiment, 8th Republic of Korea Army Division*, throughout this action reflect the greatest credit on themselves and the Republic of Korea Army. (*General Orders 753, Eighth United States Army, 16 August 1953.*)

II. 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 for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service during the periods indicated. The citations read as follows:

1. The *21st Chemical Decontamination Company* (third award) 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 June 1953. Charged with the responsibility of decontaminating vital areas and installations, the company pursued its mission in a consistently superior manner. In addition to supplying Eighth Army units with napalm, the company provided shower facilities for over 100,000 United Nations troops throughout a period characterized by a rapid decrease and turnover of trained personnel. When the company assumed the added responsibility of training unskilled KATUSA personnel, the activity constituted a major drain on the energy and time of its members. Despite this fact, there was no noticeable decline in efficiency in any phase of company operations. The *21st Chemical Decontamination 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 loyalty, initiative, and esprit de corps exhibited by members of

this company reflect great credit on themselves and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 776, Eighth United States Army, 22 August 1953.*)

2. The *21st Station Hospital* (formerly the *21st Evacuation Hospital (Semi-mobile)*), is cited for meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in support of combat operations in Korea from 1 November 1951 to 1 April 1953. Responsible for administering medical and surgical service to the combat wounded and definitive, station-hospital type care and emergency treatment to military and authorized civilian personnel stationed in the Pusan area, the members of the *21st Station Hospital* displayed commendable resourcefulness and devotion to duty in accomplishing this vital dual medical assignment. In addition, personnel of the hospital gave unstintingly of their time and talents to ameliorate the suffering of destitute Korean children in need of medical care. Characteristic of the hospital's enviable record, of the total admissions of more than 23,000 patients, over 15,000 were returned to active duty status and the mortality rate was less than 1 percent. The notable contributions of the *21st Station Hospital* significantly furthered the medical mission in the Far East, reflect great credit on its members individually and collectively, and uphold the cherished traditions of the military service.

3. The *171st Station Hospital* (formerly the *171st Evacuation Hospital (Semimobile)*), is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in support of combat operations in Korea from 1 April 1952 to 1 April 1953. Given the mission of long-term care and treatment of Korean Service Corps and personnel of the Far East Command Liaison Detachment, 8240th Army Unit, the *171st Station Hospital* operated with outstanding efficiency although faced with barriers of language, custom, and climate. They handled vast numbers of patients while simultaneously constructing additional facilities to meet the ever increasing patient load, at the same time maintaining an enviable standard of medical and surgical service. Their devotion to duty and concern for the welfare of patients alleviated suffering, saved many lives, and expedited the convalescence and return to duty of the sick and wounded. The *171st Station Hospital* displayed steadfast determination of purpose and high esprit de corps, which reflect great credit on itself and the military service.

4. The *378th Engineer Combat Battalion* is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in support of combat operations in Korea during the period 1 September 1952 to 31 March 1953. Charged with the responsibility of maintaining and improving large portions of main supply routes, the battalion consistently performed its assignments in a highly commendable manner. During the spring thaws and subsequent floods, the battalion constructed a series of high-level tactical roads over the highest peaks controlled by the United Nations forces through rough, hazardous terrain in areas infested by guerrillas and mine fields. Although constantly understrength and plagued by a rapid turnover of personnel, the outstanding attitude of loyalty which permeated all battalion activities enabled its members to complete any mission expeditiously and efficiently. At times, the battalion was spread over an entire corps area, sometimes necessitating supply and evacuation by helicopter and the use of carrying teams in order to transport material to isolated projects. At no time did the administration, supply, or communications suffer any noticeable decline in efficiency. The *378th Engineer Combat Battalion* dis-

played 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 cooperation, diligence, and esprit de corps exhibited by the members of the 378th Engineer Combat Battalion reflect great credit on themselves and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 777, Eighth United States Army, 22 August 1953.*)

5. The 8243d Army Unit, Signal Intelligence Team, is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in support of combat operations in Korea during the period 25 January to 27 July 1953. Responsible for furnishing the Eighth Army signal officer and G-2 with information pertaining to enemy signal capabilities and equipment, the team was active in collecting, evaluating, analyzing, and evacuating enemy signal equipment; interrogating prisoners of war; screening enemy documents; and rendering assistance and advice to other intelligence agencies on signal matters. The only unit of its kind in Korea, the team was called upon to perform signal intelligence services in all five corps areas of the Eighth Army. Although handicapped by a lack of trained personnel, the outstanding unity of purpose which motivated the team enabled it to function smoothly and efficiently in the face of any crisis and to overcome even the most formidable obstacles. The 8243d Army Unit, Signal Intelligence Team, displayed such outstanding devotion to duty in the performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart from and above other units. The initiative, loyalty, and esprit de corps exhibited by the members of this team reflect great credit on themselves and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 778, Eighth United States Army, 22 August 1953.*)

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

M. B. RIDGWAY,
General, United States Army,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

WM. E. BERGIN,
Major General, United States Army,
The Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

According to requirements submitted on DA AGO Form 12.