GENERAL ORDERS No. 55

# HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY WASHINGTON, D.C., 11 October 1968

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I\_MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION. By direction of the Secretary of the Army, under the provisions of paragraph 203, AR 672-5-1, the Meritorious Unit Commendation is awarded to the following named units of the United States Army for exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service during the period indicated:

The citations read as follows:

# 1. ADJUTANT GENERAL'S DATA PROCESSING UNIT, HEAD-QUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY, PACIFIC.

The Adjutant General's Data Processing Unit, Headquarters, United States Army, Pacific, distinguished itself by exceptionally meritorious service during the period July 1966 to June 1968. Seventy-five percent of mission effort of the Adjutant General's Data Processing Unit has been in support of military operations in South Vietnam. The Adjutant General's Data Processing Unit operated with unusual efficiency under extremely difficult and trying conditions in producing documented manpower, personnel management, organizational and equipment status information for Department of the Army; Headquarters, United States Army, Pacific; Headquarters, United States Army, Vietnam; and other subordinate commands. It also furnished technical assistance and guidance to all elements and activities within the command to establish the highest possible standards of personnel, organizational, and qualifications accounting for all personnel serving on active duty in the United States Army, Pacific. Displaying extraordinary devotion to duty and superior operating ability the Adjutant General's Data Processing Unit met all adversities with alacrity and accomplished its mission in accordance with the highest possible standards of quality performance. The timeliness, efficiency, and accuracy with which all tasks were accomplished contributed immeasurably to successful accomplishment of the mission assigned to the Adjutant General, United States Army, Pacific, and have provided confidence to all recipient agencies that every documented report has been prepared according to the highest possible quality standards, regardless of the magnitude and complexity of operations. The Adjutant General's Data Processing Unit has displayed such outstanding devotion to duty and performed all assignments in such a superb manner that it is set above many other units with similar missions. The morale, esprit de corps, efficiency, and professional skill exhibited by members of the Adjutant General's Data Processing Unit have brought great credit to themselves and the United States Army.

#### 2. THE 1ST MEDICAL BATTALION.

For exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service: The 1ST MEDICAL BATTALION distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 October 1967 to 31 March 1968. Although operating under unusual combat conditions which required maximum flexibility and responsiveness, the Battal-

ion's personnel furnished troopers of the 1st Infantry Division with comprehensive medical and dental care which was highly instrumental in conserving the fighting strength of the Division and in greatly decreasing the mortality and morbidity rates from wounds and disease. In addition to rendering excellent medical support during all combat operations, they efficiently coordinated the aeromedical evacuation of all patients within the Division's vast area of operations. The men of the 1ST MEDICAL BATTALION, realizing the importance of Civic Action programs to the ultimate success of the war effort, conducted more than one hundred separate medical Civic Action projects which involved treating more than twenty-six thousand Vietnamese patients during the cited period. Regardless of the tactical situation, the size of the supported force, and the difficulties imposed by the rough terrain and tropical weather, the Battalion's members always accomplished their mission in a superb manner. Through their professional competence, relentless determination and resourcefulness, they contributed materially to the medical support of the combat soldier in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 1ST MEDICAL BATTALION are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States.

#### 3. THE 15TH ADMINISTRATION COMPANY

For exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service: The 15TH ADMINISTRATION COMPANY distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 April 1967 to 30 September 1967. Throughout this time span, the men of the Company demonstrated uncommon versatility, resourcefulness, and determination in efficiently accomplishing the multifarious tasks which were vital to the combat effectiveness of the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile). They effected significant advancements in all areas of administrative support to include personnel administration, finance operations, inspector general activities and staff judge advocate functions. The efforts of the members of the 15TH ADMINISTRATION COMPANY in the processing of rest and recuperation leaves, the securing of entertainment and the expansion of recreational facilities greatly enhanced the morale of the soldiers. Their sincere interest in the welfare of the combat trooper and total dedication to providing them with the best administrative service possible earned the Company the respect and admiration of all supported elements. By their adaptability, initiative, and willingness to work long and arduous hours, the Company's men contributed immeasurably to the effort of the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 15TH ADMINISTRA-TION COMPANY are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States.

# 4. THE HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 18TH ENGINEER BRIGADE

For exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service: The HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 18TH ENGINEER BRIGADE distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 January

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1967 to 29 February 1968. The members of the Headquarters demonstrated technical expertise and distinctive initiative in exercising command and control of all nondivisional engineer operations in the II Corps Tactical Zone. Through the application of their multitudinous skills, they ensured the provision of excellent combat engineer support for tactical forces during numerous major operations. Their sound organizational techniques ensured that all projects were accomplished quickly and efficiently. The men of the HEADQUAR-TERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 18TH ENGINEER BRIGADE initiated, developed and coordinated extensive lines of communication upgrading and road opening programs which encompassed all major arteries throughout the II Corps Tactical Zone. Further, they conducted many other activities including cantonment construction, rock crusher operations, airfield maintenance and base camp development. By their uncommon versatility, perseverance and adaptability to the fluid tactical situation, the Company's personnel contributed immeasurably to the engineer support mission in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 18TH ENGINEER BRIGADE are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States.

### 5. THE 97TH MILITARY POLICE BATTALION and assigned units:

Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 97th Military Police Battalion

178th Military Police Detachment

218th Military Police Company

630th Military Police Company

Company D. 51st Infantry

Company C, 54th Infantry

For exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service: The 97TH MILITARY POLICE BATTALION and its assigned units distinguished themselves in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 May 1967 to 30 April 1968. Demonstrating uncommon versatility and adaptability to the ever-changing priorities of the war effort, the Battalion's members established an enviable record of accomplishment. They excelled not only in all major combat confrontations, but also in the everyday duties of law enforcement, security operations and public relations. The men of the 97TH MILITARY POLICE BATTALION were often called upon to react to emergency situations, and, in every instance, their quick responsiveness and noteworthy courage were instrumental in saving countless lives and preventing further danger. They worked tirelessly in the area of community relations, and their efforts resulted in better understanding between the Vietnamese people and the American soldiers. Through their perseverance, conscientiousness and determination, the Battalion's personnel contributed immeasurably to the military police mission in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 97TH MILITARY POLICE BATTALION are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States.

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### 6. THE 500TH ENGINEER COMPANY (PANEL BRIDGE)

For exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service: The 500TH ENGINEER COMPANY (PANEL BRIDGE) distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 12 December 1966 to 9 April 1968. The company's personnel contributed immeasurably to the prosecution of the war effort by the tactical emplacement of Bailey Bridges and the provision of excellent dump truck support for multi-national forces operating throughout the II Field Force Vietnam area of responsibility. In many instances their rapid and timely construction of a bridge was the key factor in the success of a combat mission. Despite the difficulties imposed by the extreme hardships of tropical weather and the constant threat of enemy attack, the men of the 500TH ENGINEER COMPANY (PANEL BRIDGE) hauled in excess of 150,000 yards of construction materials over a distance of more than one million miles in support of high priority forward area construction operations. Their tireless efforts resulted in the construction of badly needed airfields, roads and other facilities which materially advanced the effort of the free world military forces in the Republic of Vietnam. In every undertaking, they exhibited professional competence and a sense of urgency which ensured that all tasks were completed in an exemplary manner. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 500TH ENGINEER COMPANY (PANEL BRIDGE) are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States.

# 7. THE HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT, 16TH MILITARY POLICE GROUP.

The HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT, 16TH MILITARY POLICE GROUP distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 October 1966 to 15 January 1968. Demonstrating a total grasp of military police operations and astute organizational skills, the detachment's members initiated, coordinated and supervised the activities of three battalions, a sentry dog company and two detachments, all of which were widely dispersed throughout the II Corps Tactical Zone. They developed a highly responsive and versatile command structure which ensured quick reaction to the needs of I Field Force Vietnam. The men of the HEADQUARTERS and HEADQUARTERS DE-TACHMENT, 16TH MILITARY POLICE GROUP effected significant improvements in all areas of operation including prisoner of war movement, convoy escort and traffic control. Further, they established a Police Intelligence Center which proved invaluable in providing major commands with a continuous flow of actual and potential intelligence information. Their efforts in instituting combined police patrols with Republic of Korea, Army of the Republic of Vietnam and National police forces were instrumental in cementing the relationship between the multi-national forces and in assuring the fulfillment of every aspect of their military police responsibilities. By their professionalism, resourcefulness and determination, the detachment's personnel materially contributed to the free world military effort in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT, 16TH

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MILTARY POLICE GROUP are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States.

### 8. THE 27TH DATA PROCESSING UNIT (TYPE Z).

The 27TH DATA PROCESSING UNIT (TYPE Z) distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 October 1964 to 1 June 1968. Displaying unusual determination and fortitude, the unit overcame the inherent hardships imposed by an extremely adverse climatic environment and the constant harassment of the Viet Cong to perform its mission in a highly professional manner. From October 1964 to December 1965, it was the only American data processing unit in-country, shouldering the formidable task of providing data support to a multitude of requesting agencies. Although the total of American troop strength serviced rose from 14,000 to 220,000 within thirteen months, the 27TH DATA PROC-ESSING UNIT (TYPE Z) continued to accomplish its mission with no loss of efficiency. Members of the unit continuously rendered conspicuously meritorious service to ensure that all assigned missions were completed successfully and expediently. When the magnitude of problems in combat areas seemed insurmountable, unit personnel surveyed the situation at hand and collectively worked toward the efficient solution of the problem. The extremely important role which the unit played in introducing data support to combat troops paved the way for the inception of more efficient data processing equipment in the Republic of Vietnam. The enthusiastic, professional support rendered to the Commander, United States Military Assistance Command, Vietnam contributed immeasurably to the free world force's struggle against the communist goal of subverting the government of the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 27TH DATA PROCESSING UNIT (TYPE Z) are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States.

# 9. THE 283D MEDICAL DETACHMENT (HELICOPTER AMBULANCE).

The 283D MEDICAL DETACHMENT (HELICOPTER AMBU-LANCE) distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 October 1966 to 31 March 1968. Demonstrating extraordinary, fortitude, technical expertise and distinctive courage, the unit's personnel provided outstanding aeromedical evacuation support to multi-national forces operating in the II and III Corps Tactical Zones. Noteworthy among their many accomplishments were their efforts during Operation JUNCTION CITY, then the largest United States search and destroy mission ever undertaken. In this engagement they encountered extremely hazardous conditions due to the thickness of the jungle, but their initiative and determination in effecting numerous extractions by means of hoists saved countless American lives. Despite the danger to their own lives, the men of the 283D MEDICAL DETACHMENT (HELICOPTER AMBULANCE) frequently braved intense enemy fire in order to accomplish an evacuation, and their heroic actions significantly enhanced the morale of the frontline soldiers by assuring them that, if they were wounded, they would be afforded expedient aeromedical service. Through their

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relentless tenacity, conspicuous gallantry and total dedication to furnishing combat troops with the best possible medical support, the detachment's men contributed immeasurably to the United States struggle against communist aggression in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 283D MEDICAL DETACHMENT (HELICOPTER AMBULANCE) are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States.

II\_MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION. So much of section III, General Orders Number 30, Department of the Army, 1968, as pertains to award of the Meritorious Unit Commendation to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2d Logistical Command is amended to include the following units:

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4th Military History Detachment
5th Ordnance Detachment (Explosive Ordnance Disposal)
Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 26th Transportation Bat-
    talion (Terminal)
58th Supply Company (Heavy Materiel) (GS). (Redesignated from 58th
    Quartermaster Company—GO 258, HQ USARPAC, 23 Nov 66)
111th Transportation Detachment (BARC Operations and Maintenance)
116th Transportation Company (Terminal Service)
137th Ordnance Company (Special Ammunition) (GS)
175th Ordnance Company (Ammunition) (DS) (GS)
185th Supply Company (GS). (Redesignated from 185th Engineer Com-
    pany, GO 258, HQ USARPAC, 23 Nov 66). (The following units were
    attached to the 185th Engineer Company prior to redesignation and
    were inactivated by GO 258, HQ USARPAC, 23 Nov 66:
        248th Signal Detachment
        259th Signal Detachment
        367 Ordnance Detachment)
Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 196th Ordnance Battalion
    (Ammunition) (GS)
    (Ammunition) (GS)
267th Chemical Company
285th Transportation Company (Terminal Service). (Assigned to 2d
   Logistical Command, GO 254, HQ USARYIS, 2 Nov 65; reassigned
    to USARV, GO 132, HQ USARYIS, 12 May 66).
339th Supply Company (GS)
340th Supply Company (Repair Parts)
384th Transportation Detachment (Tug Crew)
386th Transportation Detachment (Tug Crew)
387th Transportation Detachment (Floating Crane Crew)
389th Transportation Detachment (Tug Crew)
404th Transportation Detachment (Movement Control)
412th Transportation Company (Terminal Service)
414th Transportation Detachment (Tug Crew)
498th Transportation Detachment (Tug Crew). (Assigned to 2d Logistical
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Jun 66 until reassigned)

Command, GO 183, HQ USARYIS, 17 Jun 66; reassigned to USARV, GO 184, USARYIS, 26 Jul 67. Unit was TDY to Vietnam from 6

515th Ordnance Company (Special Ammunition) (GS)

526th Maintenance Company (Heavy Equipment) (GS)

555th Maintenance Company (Heavy Equipment) (GS). (Redesignated from 58th Signal Company—GO 258, HQ USARPAC, 23 Nov 66) 585th Maintenance Company (Light Equipment) (GS). (Redesignated from 585th Ordnance Company—GO 258, HQ USARPAC, 23 Nov 66)

657th Ordnance Company (Calibration)

By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

W. C. WESTMORELAND, General, United States Army, Chief of Staff.

#### Official:

KENNETH G. WICKHAM, Major General, United States Army, The Adjutant General.

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