

GENERAL ORDERS

No. 67

HEADQUARTERS  
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
WASHINGTON, D.C., 28 October 1968

**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 periods indicated:

The citations read as follows:

**1. THE 18TH SURGICAL HOSPITAL (MOBILE ARMY) and attached unit: 240th Medical Detachment (KF)**

The 18TH SURGICAL HOSPITAL (MOBILE ARMY) and its attached unit distinguished themselves in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 June 1966 to 14 October 1967. Shortly after arriving at Pleiku, Republic of Vietnam, the unit established the first operational hospital in the Central Highlands, immediately providing the area with much-needed medical support. Operating initially under tentage and later in a semipermanent facility, the Hospital provided the epitome of surgical care services to the combat and support troops operating in its area of responsibility despite being handicapped by not having its full complement of authorized equipment. Through the skill of the Hospital's surgeons and the advanced medical techniques being utilized, hundreds of wounded, both military and nonmilitary, were operated on, with the result that numerous lives were saved and countless limbs preserved. The 18TH SURGICAL HOSPITAL (MOBILE ARMY) not only provided surgical care, but the unit was augmented by other subordinate elements to provide a medical clinic as well. This organizational innovation was of great significance in that it partially relieved the division-level medical service of its cumbersome load. This multifaceted medical situation was met with the enthusiasm and diligence which characterized the Hospital's unique overall performance. The exceptional professional treatment rendered by the Hospital in the Central Highlands fostered a warm rapport between personnel of the United States and the local populace. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 18TH SURGICAL HOSPITAL (MOBILE ARMY) 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.

**2. THE 35TH ENGINEER BATTALION (COMBAT)**

The 35TH ENGINEER BATTALION (COMBAT) distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 24 November 1966 to 15 October 1967. Only four days after disembarking at Qui Nhon, the Battalion began fulfilling its important engineering mission by commencing work on a six-inch pipeline from Qui Nhon to An Khe. While work on this project was progressing rapidly, the heaviest rains of the monsoon season occurred and washed out numerous portions of Highway QL-1, the only land supply route of the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile). As existing air supply facilities were inadequate to support the elements of the division, the 35TH ENGINEER BATTALION (COMBAT) immediately shifted its scope of operations to this high-priority project. To expedite the construction progress, elements of the Battalion were airlifted to separate locations along the road.

Battling against devastating torrential rains, as well as the crafty insurgents, the Battalion neutralized twenty-seven major washouts and repaired ninety-five areas which had been inundated by the northeast monsoons. Realizing that the only way to prevent the same problems the following year was to widen and elevate the road, the Battalion undertook this enormous task. Completion of this imaginative, painstaking project greatly alleviated the logistical problems of the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) and contributed immeasurably to the counterinsurgency effort in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 35TH ENGINEER BATTALION (COMBAT) 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 9TH MEDICAL BATTALION

The 9TH MEDICAL BATTALION distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 January 1967 to 31 December 1967. Responsible for providing medical service support for the 9th Infantry Division, the battalion's members applied their professional abilities and relentless determination to ensure that the division's troopers received the finest medical care possible. They demonstrated exemplary courage and resourcefulness in supporting numerous combat operations including Operations SILVER LAKE, COLBY/IOLA, ENTERPRISE, JUNCTION CITY, UNIONTOWN, RILEY, CORONADO and PADDINGTON. In order to cope with the fluid tactical situation, they developed Medical Reaction Teams which were capable of reaching any position in the division's area of operation in a very short time frame. The swiftness and flexibility which characterized the teams' performances were instrumental in averting numerous mass casualty situations. The men of the 9TH MEDICAL BATTALION rendered comprehensive medical support to the Royal Thailand Volunteer Regiment. Further, they initiated an informative and imaginative training program which familiarized the Thais with medical treatment procedures. Realizing the importance of civic action to the ultimate success of the war effort, unit personnel conducted a vigorous Medical Civic Action Program which furnished treatment for more than twenty thousand Vietnamese people during the cited period. Through their uncommon versatility, technical expertise and total dedication to mission accomplishment, they contributed immeasurably to the effort of the 9th Infantry Division in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 9TH 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.

### 4. THE 20TH PREVENTIVE MEDICINE UNIT (SERVICE) (FIELD) and its assigned units:

- 3d Medical Detachment
- 61st Medical Detachment
- 105th Medical Detachment
- 926th Medical Detachment

The 20TH PREVENTIVE MEDICINE UNIT (SERVICE) (FIELD) and its assigned units distinguished themselves in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 November 1967 to 30

June 1968. Demonstrating professional skill and singular initiative, the detachment's personnel rendered comprehensive preventive medicine support to United States and free world forces operating throughout the theater. They developed and standardized procedures for the surveillance and supervision of environmental sanitation, and their tireless efforts were instrumental in conserving the fighting strength of the allied forces. The men of the 20TH PREVENTIVE MEDICINE UNIT (SERVICE) (FIELD) also designed and implemented an entomology program which proved highly effective in controlling the spread of germ-carrying insects. Realizing the importance of civic action to the ultimate success of the war effort, they instituted numerous training programs for local nationals in the vital area of rat and flea control. Further, they worked in conjunction with the United States Agency for International Development training many Vietnamese sanitary agents in the modern theories and techniques of preventive medicine. Through their consummate technical knowledge, relentless determination and total dedication to mission accomplishment, the men of the unit contributed immeasurably 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 20TH PREVENTIVE MEDICINE UNIT (SERVICE) (FIELD) 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 6TH BATTALION, 32D ARTILLERY

The 6TH BATTALION, 32D ARTILLERY distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 April 1967 to 31 March 1968. Tasked with providing artillery support for multinational forces operating throughout the II Corps Tactical Zone, the battalion established an unprecedented level of accuracy and reliability which earned it an enviable reputation for combat excellence. The battalion traveled nearly four thousand miles in support of eighty-five operations, including Operations SUMMERALL, PERSHING, BYRD, GREELEY, FRANCIS MARION, HONG KIL DONG, and BOLLING I and II. The men of the 6TH BATTALION, 32D ARTILLERY demonstrated a thorough knowledge of artillery techniques and meticulous attention to detail in firing more than 105,000 rounds from fifty different positions without an artillery accident or incident. During the joint North Vietnamese Army/Viet Cong TET offensive, they played a key role in thwarting the 5th Battalion, 95th North Vietnamese Army Regiment's attack on the city of Tuy Hoa. In addition to their tireless efforts to destroy the enemy on the battlefield, the unit's personnel endeavored to win the hearts and minds of the Vietnamese populace by conducting an effective Civic Action Program. Their establishment of a comprehensive medical assistance project at the Dong Tre Refugee Center significantly enhanced the personal well-being of the local residents. Through their expertise in artillery employment, uncommon versatility and responsiveness to the fire support needs of maneuver elements, the battalion's men contributed materially to the free world struggle against communist aggression in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 6TH BATTALION, 32D ARTILLERY 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.

#### 6. THE HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 79TH ENGINEER GROUP (CONSTRUCTION)

The HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 79TH ENGINEER GROUP (CONSTRUCTION) distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 February 1967 to 31 May 1968. The unit's members demonstrated administrative acumen and professional competence in directing all construction and nondivisional combat engineer support for the entire northern portion of the III Corps Tactical Zone. Significant among their many accomplishments was their initiative in the development of the land clearing concept. Their effective employment of land clearing teams was invaluable in depriving the enemy of previously impregnable jungle sanctuaries. The men of the HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 79TH ENGINEER GROUP (CONSTRUCTION) applied their meticulous attention to detail and keen foresight to overcome and minimize logistical difficulties and consequently ensure that engineering projects were not hampered by the lack of needed supplies. They rendered outstanding combat engineer support for ten division-sized operations during the cited period, and their tireless efforts and total dedication to mission accomplishment earned them the respect and admiration of all supported commanders. Further, they conducted numerous diverse operations including base camp development, lines of communication maintenance, and airfield construction which materially advanced the prosecution of the war effort in their area of responsibility. Through their versatility, organizational talents and adaptability to all contingencies, they contributed immeasurably to the free world struggle against communist aggression in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 79TH ENGINEER GROUP (CONSTRUCTION) 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 85TH MAINTENANCE COMPANY (LIGHT) (DIRECT SUPPORT) and its attached units:

- 12th Ordnance Detachment (23 February 1967 to 31 March 1968)
- 188th Quartermaster Detachment (23 February 1967 to 31 March 1968)
- 546th Signal Detachment (26 June 1967 to 31 March 1968)

The 85TH MAINTENANCE COMPANY (LIGHT) (DIRECT SUPPORT) and its attached units distinguished themselves in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 29 December 1966 to 31 March 1968. Tasked with providing direct support and limited general support maintenance for all army elements in the I Corps Tactical Zone, the company's members applied their multitudinous skills and technical expertise to overcome the difficulties inherent in the combat environment and accomplish their mission in an outstanding manner. In order to furnish more effective service and eliminate travel by supported elements over the treacherous roads to Da Nang, the men of the 85TH MAINTENANCE COMPANY (LIGHT) (DIRECT SUPPORT) formed contact teams under the forward support activity concept, thereby making equipment maintenance support readily available to the frontline units. Demonstrating professional competence and matchless versatility, they undertook the maintenance of a large percentage of

commercial equipment, and although not equipped to handle this materiel, they ensured that this equipment was expeditiously repaired. Their total dedication to rendering the best maintenance support possible earned them the respect and admiration of all supported elements. Through their singular initiative, relentless determination and resourcefulness, they contributed immeasurably to the free world effort in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 85TH MAINTENANCE COMPANY (LIGHT) (DIRECT SUPPORT) 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 125TH AIR TRAFFIC COMPANY

The 125TH AIR TRAFFIC COMPANY distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 June 1967 to 31 December 1967. As the only unit of its type tested in combat environment, the company was tasked with the responsibility of conducting flight following for aircraft of all the services and operating terminal air traffic control facilities, both fixed and mobile, which consisted of control towers, Ground Control Approach Radar sets and nondirectional radio beacons. The company's personnel demonstrated technical competence and seemingly limitless skills in performing all assigned tasks in an outstanding manner. Each month the men of the 125TH AIR TRAFFIC COMPANY controlled in excess of 341,000 aircraft, flight followed almost 160,000 planes and gave Ground Control Approach Radar assistance to more than 1,600 aircraft. They were often called upon to support tactical operations with their mobile combat teams, and in every instance, they worked tirelessly and became functional prior to the designated time. Faced with tremendous operational requirements due to the rapid increase in scope and intensity of combat operations, they applied their unique ability to foresee problem areas and effect prompt, preventive action, thereby averting difficulties and materially advancing the overall war effort. Through their determination, initiative and resourcefulness, the company's men contributed immeasurably to the struggle against communist aggression in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 125TH AIR TRAFFIC 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.

#### 9. THE 272D MILITARY POLICE COMPANY

The 272D MILITARY POLICE COMPANY distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 September 1966 to 31 October 1967. Charged with providing security for the Commanding General, I Field Force Vietnam, his headquarters and the Tactical Command Post, the members of the company demonstrated alertness and vigilance in fulfilling their mission in an exemplary manner. In addition to this primary responsibility, they expended considerable resources and manpower in support of sixteen major combat operations within the II Corps Tactical Zone. While serving with elements of the 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) during Operations FILMORE, LINCOLN, JOHN PAUL JONES and SEWARD, the men of the 272D MILITARY POLICE COMPANY played a key role in destroying Viet Cong control in Phu Yen Province. Further, they supported the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), and in this capacity, they

efficiently processed and evacuated prisoners of war, refugees and civilian personnel, thereby freeing the combat elements for their tactical mission. Significant among their many accomplishments was their effort in the area of convoy security. Their quick reaction to enemy ambushes and ability to rapidly gain fire superiority were key factors in the low casualty rate sustained by United States Forces during the first logistical move of supplies from Nha Trang to Ban Me Thout. Through their exemplary courage, relentless determination and resourcefulness, the military policemen materially advanced the struggle against communist aggression in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 272D MILITARY POLICE 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.

**10. THE 278TH SUPPLY AND SERVICE BATTALION (GENERAL SUPPORT)** and its assigned and attached units:

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 278th Supply and Service Battalion  
 53d Supply Company (15 June 1967 to 1 March 1968)  
 56th Supply Company  
 67th Engineer Detachment  
 68th Engineer Detachment  
 109th Quartermaster Company  
 147th Field Service Company (24 May 1967 to 1 March 1968)  
 195th Quartermaster Detachment (15 June 1967 to 1 March 1968)  
 383d Quartermaster Detachment  
 561st Quartermaster Detachment (15 June 1967 to 1 March 1968)  
 563d Quartermaster Detachment (15 June 1967 to 1 March 1968)  
 623d Quartermaster Company

The 278TH SUPPLY AND SERVICE BATTALION (GENERAL SUPPORT) and its assigned and attached units distinguished themselves in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 January 1967 to 1 March 1968. Throughout this period the battalion assumed operational control of many diversified activities and performed all assigned tasks in an exemplary manner. The men of the 278TH SUPPLY AND SERVICE BATTALION (GENERAL SUPPORT) made rapid strides not only in all areas of logistical supply, but also in airdrop operations; air equipment repair; oxygen, acetylene and CO<sup>2</sup> production; engineer projects; and recoupment and property disposal activities. Further, they actively participated in numerous civic action projects which significantly enhanced the relationship between the American soldier and the Vietnamese people. Through their determination to provide the best possible support for the combat soldier and ability to adapt to the needs of the situation, the battalion's personnel contributed immeasurably to the mission of the United States in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 278TH SUPPLY AND SERVICE BATTALION (GENERAL SUPPORT) 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.

# **11. THE 524TH MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DETACHMENT (COUNTERINTELLIGENCE) and its assigned units:**

571st Military Intelligence Detachment (Team AH)  
 572d Military Intelligence Detachment (Team AI)  
 573d Military Intelligence Detachment (Team BA)  
 574th Military Intelligence Detachment (Team GB)  
 575th Military Intelligence Detachment (Team GD)  
 576th Military Intelligence Detachment (Team GE)  
 577th Military Intelligence Detachment (Team HA)  
 578th Military Intelligence Detachment (Team HC)  
 579th Military Intelligence Detachment (Team HE)  
 580th Military Intelligence Detachment (Team HD)

The 524TH MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DETACHMENT (COUNTERINTELLIGENCE) and its assigned units distinguished themselves in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 October 1966 to 31 May 1968. Demonstrating technical expertise and relentless pursuit of mission accomplishment, the detachment's members contributed immeasurably to the effectiveness of the 1st Logistical Command. Their timely detection of treason, sedition, subversion and disaffection and their prevention or neutralization of espionage and sabotage directed against the command and its areas of jurisdiction greatly improved the defensive posture of the command. The men of the 524TH MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DETACHMENT (COUNTERINTELLIGENCE) applied their singular initiative and unique imagination to ensure the provision of outstanding intelligence and counter-intelligence support to more than sixty-three thousand troops in six hundred units throughout the theater. Their resourcefulness and ability to defeat the elusive enemy in this critical area were key factors in the command's maintenance of an unprecedented level of logistical efficiency. Through their meticulous attention to detail, keen analytical talents and adaptability to all contingencies, they materially advanced 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 524TH MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DETACHMENT (COUNTERINTELLIGENCE) 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.

# **12. THE UNITED STATES ARMY ELEMENT, VIETNAM REGIONAL EXCHANGE (PACEX)**

The UNITED STATES ARMY ELEMENT, VIETNAM REGIONAL EXCHANGE (PACEX) distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 6 May 1966 to 31 May 1968. Demonstrating professionalism and determination, the men of the element overcame numerous difficulties to provide merchandise and services of necessity and convenience items to authorized patrons and furnish a responsive exchange service to all military commanders within the geographical area assigned to the Commander, United States Military Assistance Command, Vietnam. Because of their tireless efforts, exchange services have been expanded from 115 retail outlets, 41 food outlets, 18 concession contracts and 72 imprest funds

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with monthly gross sales of \$15,414,650 in September of 1966 to 218 retail outlets, 110 food outlets, 487 concession contracts and 96 imprest funds with monthly gross sales of \$35,442,500 in May of 1968. During the enemy's TET Offensive, the members of the UNITED STATES ARMY ELEMENT, VIETNAM REGIONAL EXCHANGE (PACEX) worked long and arduous hours to maintain operation of exchange facilities. With complete disregard for their own safety, they often braved sniper fire and enemy patrols in order to expeditiously move exchange merchandise to outlying areas during this critical period. Through their tenacity, perseverance and total dedication to mission accomplishment, they contributed immeasurably to the morale of the combat soldier in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the UNITED STATES ARMY ELEMENT, VIETNAM REGIONAL EXCHANGE (PACEX) 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.

By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

Official:

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

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

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