

GENERAL ORDERS }  
No. 23

HEADQUARTERS  
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
WASHINGTON, D.C., 16 April 1969

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION (ARMY)—Awards.....	Section I
PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION (ARMY)—Amendments.....	II

**I. PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION (ARMY).** 1. Award of the Presidential Unit Citation (Army) by the President of the United States of America to the following units of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Vietnam and the United States is confirmed in accordance with paragraph 194, AR 672-5-1. The text of the citation, signed by President Richard M. Nixon 4 March 1969, reads as follows:

“By virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the United States and as Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces of the United States I have today awarded

THE PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION (ARMY)

FOR EXTRAORDINARY HEROISM

TO THE

1ST INFANTRY DIVISION

ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM, AND ATTACHED UNITS

*ASSIGNED UNITS—ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM*

- 1st Battalion, 1st Regiment
- 2d Battalion, 1st Regiment
- 3d Battalion, 1st Regiment
- 4th Battalion, 1st Regiment
- 1st Battalion, 2d Regiment
- 2d Battalion, 2d Regiment
- 3d Battalion, 2d Regiment
- 4th Battalion, 2d Regiment
- 1st Battalion, 3d Regiment
- 2d Battalion, 3d Regiment
- 3d Battalion, 3d Regiment
- 4th Battalion, 3d Regiment
- 11th Artillery Battalion
- 12th Artillery Battalion
- Headquarters and Headquarters Company
- 1st Medical Company
- 1st Signal Company
- Reconnaissance Company
- 1st Engineer Battalion
- 1st Ordnance Company
- 1st Transportation Company
- Reaction Company

## ATTACHED UNITS—ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

	<i>Dates attached</i>
1st Airborne Task Force.....	21 August 1967-6 October 1967. 3 December 1967-18 January 1968.
2d Airborne Task Force.....	28 January 1967-24 May 1967. 24 March 1967-10 July 1967. 6 October 1967-3 December 1967. 18 January 1968-13 February 1968.
3d Airborne Task Force.....	10 July 1967-21 August 1967.
1st Airborne Battalion.....	28 January 1967-24 March 1967. 19 September 1967-3 December 1967,
2d Airborne Battalion.....	24 March 1967-10 July 1967. 21 August 1967-20 September 1967. 18 January 1968-13 February 1968.
3d Airborne Battalion.....	28 January 1967-24 March 1967.
5th Airborne Battalion.....	28 January 1967-24 March 1967. 20 September 1967-18 January 1968.
6th Airborne Battalion.....	10 July 1967-21 August 1967.
7th Airborne Battalion.....	24 March 1967-10 July 1967. 21 August 1967-3 December 1967. 18 January 1968-13 February 1968.
8th Airborne Battalion.....	10 July 1967-31 August 1967. 19 September 1967-10 December 1967.
9th Airborne Battalion.....	24 March 1967-10 July 1967. 21 August 1967-5 November 1967. 3 December 1967-13 December 1967.
1st Ranger Task Force.....	19 February 1968-25 February 1968.
21st Ranger Battalion.....	19 February 1968-25 February 1968.
37th Ranger Battalion.....	27 January 1968-25 February 1968.
39th Ranger Battalion.....	19 February 1968-25 February 1968.
Vietnamese Marine Task Force A.	13 February 1968-25 February 1968.
1st Vietnamese Marine Corps Battalion.	13 February 1968-25 February 1968.
4th Vietnamese Marine Corps Battalion.	13 February 1968-25 February 1968.
5th Vietnamese Marine Corps Battalion.	13 February 1968-25 February 1968.
101st Engineer Battalion.....	1 January 1967-25 February 1968.
7th Cavalry Regiment.....	1 January 1967-25 February 1968.
1st Troop, 7th Regiment.....	1 January 1967-25 February 1968.
2d Troop, 7th Regiment.....	1 January 1967-25 February 1968.
3d Troop, 7th Regiment.....	1 January 1967-25 February 1968.
2d Troop, 4th Regiment (Reinforced).	17 May 1967-8 June 1967.
Battery A, 39th Artillery Battalion.	1 January 1967-25 February 1968.
1st Platoon, Battery B, 34th Artillery Battalion.	1 January 1967-25 February 1968.

*ASSIGNED UNITS—UNITED STATES ARMY*

Advisory Team 3, United States Military Assistance Command, Vietnam

Advisory Team 4, United States Military Assistance Command, Vietnam

The 1st Infantry Division, Army of the Republic of Vietnam, and attached units, distinguished themselves by extraordinary gallantry and achievement in connection with military operations against the Viet Cong and the Army of North Vietnam in Thua Thien and Quang Tri Provinces, Republic of Vietnam, during the period of 1 January 1967 to 25 February 1968. As a fighting force, the 1st Infantry Division exhibited heroism, courage, aggressive spirit, professional acumen and fortitude in destroying 50 percent of the local enemy combat potential. During Operation Lam Son 45, 1st Division forces engaged and defeated Viet Cong forces at Thua Thien and Quang Tri Provincial Sub-Northern Military Zone, rendering the Viet Cong command headquarters, military and political leadership agencies and logistical bases partially ineffective. During Operation Lam Son 46, the division routed a battalion-size enemy force from well-fortified and entrenched positions. Because of the division's aggressive spirit and resoluteness the enemy was forced to flee the battlefield, abandoning casualties and weapons. On 2 May 1967, the 1st Division, in two bitter hours of close combat including hand-to-hand encounters, killed or wounded 60 percent of the Viet Cong 810th Battalion. While conducting Lam Son, 48, 4-5 May 1967, 1st Division forces contacted a large Viet Cong force in excellent defensive positions. After employing artillery and assault helicopters, the division forces launched an attack with such violence and determination that the enemy was forced to withdraw after suffering very heavy casualties. On 20 May 1967, while taking part in the historic operation inside the DMZ south of the Ben Hai River, the 1st Division encountered regular North Vietnamese Army units. With the same tenacity, esprit de corps and determination it had displayed in earlier engagements the division overwhelmed the enemy, killing 584 North Vietnamese soldiers while sustaining only minor casualties themselves. In addition to their military victory, they relocated 13,597 friendly villagers from the Viet Cong-influenced DMZ area, south of the refugee camp at Cam Lo. Operation Lam Son 63 was initiated by the division on 2 June 1967. Capitalizing on experience of past successes, the division, after contacting a large Viet Cong force, maneuvered its units into an encirclement. The Viet Cong, fighting from strongly prepared positions, stubbornly refused to surrender. After two hours of fierce fighting, the position was overrun and only an estimated 50 Viet Cong survived. During Operation Lam Son 87, 20-24 July 1967, the division engaged and defeated a North Vietnamese Army Regiment, destroying an equivalent of two battalions. On 20 October 1967, during Operation Lam Son 138, the division once again displayed its superb aggressive spirit by closing with and routing a reinforced enemy battalion poised to strike the Co Luy outpost. Operation Lam Son 166 was initiated by the 1st Division on 26 December 1967. Gaining fire superiority through the use of the newly issued M16A1 rifles, elements of the division closed with the 816th Viet Cong Battalion and virtually destroyed it while suffering light casualties themselves. During the enemy's TET offensive and the battle for Hue, the division fought gallantly for 26 consecutive days against overwhelming odds, inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy within the Quang Tri and Hue area. The 1st Division's esprit de corps, aggressive spirit and pro-

fessional competence are demonstrated by its unparalleled combat record and are reflected in the confidence of the populace and the failure of the Viet Cong to gain popular support during the TET Offensive. The continuous gallant performance and resolute determination of the 1st Division and attached units are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military services, and reflect the utmost credit upon themselves and the Army of the Republic of Vietnam."

2. Award of the Presidential Unit Citation (Army) by The President of the United States of America to the 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry, 1st Infantry Division, United States Army, is confirmed in accordance with paragraph 194, AR 672-5-1. The award is for extraordinary heroism during the period 6 to 9 November 1966. The text of the citation signed by President Richard M. Nixon 5 March 1969, reads as follows:

"By virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the United States and as Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces of the United States I have today awarded

#### THE PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION (ARMY)

#### FOR EXTRAORDINARY HEROISM

#### TO THE

#### 1ST BATTALION, 28TH INFANTRY, 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION

#### UNITED STATES ARMY

The 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry, 1st Infantry Division, distinguished itself by extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy during Operation Attleboro in Tay Ninh Province, Republic of Vietnam, from 6 to 9 November 1966. On the morning of 5 November, the battalion airlifted to Tay Ninh Province where elements of the 25th Division were engaged in fierce fighting with two divisions of Viet Cong. During the conduct of search-and-destroy missions, the 1st Battalion engaged in light contact with enemy forces on the 6th and 7th. A reconnaissance-by-fire at 0620 hours on the morning of 8 November drew heavy Viet Cong fire into the Battalion's perimeter. Within minutes, the Viet Cong launched a strong frontal assault supported by heavy automatic weapons fire. This attack was quickly defeated as the battalion fired its first bank of claymores into the onrushing enemy. Almost immediately another assault began; a second bank of claymores was fired, and the enemy was again forced to withdraw. Time after time the Viet Cong attacked, committing increasingly larger elements in an attempt to overrun the 1st Battalion; but, as the battle raged throughout the early morning, the enemy continued to be repulsed. Despite intense enemy automatic weapons and small arms fire dominating the ground between them and their helicopter landing site, the men of the 1st Battalion repeatedly exposed themselves to carry their wounded to evacuation helicopters and to insure continuous supply of ammunition. By 0800 hours, the heroic and unyielding defense of the 1st Battalion supported by artillery and tactical airstrikes had reduced the furious Viet Cong assaults to sporadic bursts of automatic weapons fire. At 1100 hours, after being thoroughly defeated, the enemy finally withdrew, leaving the battlefield covered with casualties and materiel. The determination, intrepidity and esprit de corps displayed by the men of the 1st Battalion resulted

in breaking the enemy's advance on Tay Ninh Province and the destruction of at least two battalions of hard core Viet Cong. An evacuation of supplies, completed the following day, also revealed this to have been one of the largest arms and ammunition losses ever sustained by the enemy. The overwhelming victory by the members of the 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry, against a determined and numerically superior enemy force reflects distinct credit on themselves, the 1st Infantry Division, and the United States Army."

**II. PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION.** 1. So much of paragraph 3, Section I, General Orders Number 40, Headquarters, Department of the Army, dated 21 September 1967, as pertains to award of The Presidential Unit Citation to the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) and attached units from 23 October 1965 to 26 November 1965 is amended to add the 184th Chemical Platoon (DS) to the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile).

2. So much of paragraph 1, Section I, General Orders Number 3, Headquarters, Department of the Army, dated 10 January 1969, pertaining to the award of The Presidential Unit Citation (Army), as reads, "Battery B, 7th Battalion, 99th Artillery," is amended to read "Battery B, 7th Battalion, 9th Artillery."

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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