GENERAL ORDERS
No. 56

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY WASHINGTON, DC, 25 August 1969

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 periods indicated:

1. THE 1ST SUPPLY AND TRANSPORT BATTALION, 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION

The citation reads as follows:

The 1ST SUPPLY AND TRANSPORT BATTALION, 1ST INFAN-TRY DIVISION distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 July 1967 to 31 December 1968. Demonstrating professional competence and a seemingly limitless capacity for work, the officers and men of the battalion provided outstanding logistical support to widespread elements of the 1st Infantry Division. Despite overwhelming obstacles and unique support problems inherent in the fluid combat environment, they responded rapidly to the urgent requirements of infantrymen with the effective distribution of adequate provisions. The sensitivity of the members of the 1ST SUPPLY AND TRANSPORT BATTALION, 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION in estimating tactical situations, coupled with their efficient operation of supply sections at each of the division's forward base camps, contributed immeasurably to the success of fighting forces engaged in Operations PORTLAND, SHENANDOAH II, LAM SON, QUYET THANG, and TOAN THANG I and II. By implementing the concept of "jump teams" at strategic locations and establishing temporary forward supply sites, they significantly increased their capabilities to supply services, rations, equipment and types of fuel required by combat elements. Their unrelenting perseverance and dedication to providing the optimum in logistical support materially advanced 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 1ST SUPPLY AND TRANSPORT BATTALION, 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon them and upon the Armed Forces of the United States.

2. THE 4TH MEDICAL DETACHMENT (VETERINARY SERVICE) The citation reads as follows:

The 4TH MEDICAL DETACHMENT (VETERINARY SERVICE) distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 July 1968 to 31 December 1968. Demonstrating exceptional dedication and comprehensive technical skill, the officers and men of the detachment provided outstanding veterinary services to Allied forces throughout the III and IV Corps Tactical Zones. With their pro-

fessional knowledge and singular intiative, they upgraded the medical support rendered to the military war dog program. Their determined efforts successfully maintained the total animal strength needed to fulfill operational requirements and increased the combat readiness of the military war dog units. Through the application of rigid food management principles and mature judgment, the members of the 4TH MEDICAL DE-TACHMENT excelled at maintaining sanitary surveillance over fifty-two Vietnamese food processing establishments which provided subsistence to United States troops. Their thorough inspection procedures and strict enforcement of high standards of cleanliness effected a significant reduction of losses of perishable items in storage. Showing an intense concern for the rural Vietnamese people, the personnel of the unit enhanced the economic progress of the agricultural areas by aiding in the control of infectious and contagious diseases and improving the management of livestock. Through their unrelenting perseverence in providing the optimum in veterinary support, they materially advanced 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 4TH MEDICAL DETACHMENT are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinction upon them and upon the Armed Forces of the United States.

3. THE HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 5TH TRANSPORTATION COMMAND

The citation reads as follows:

The HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 5TH TRANSPORTATION COMMAND distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 30 April 1968 to 31 October 1968. During this period the officers and men of the unit demonstrated dynamic leadership and exceptional foresight in exercising masterful command and control of units assigned to operate the United States Army Port of Qui Nhon. Through their determined efforts, they successfully completed a deep-draft anchorage in the inner harbor of Qui Nhon which allows for vital off-loading operations to continue despite adverse weather conditions in the outer harbor. By efficiently managing all resources and capabilities and establishing a comprehensive system of security controls, the members of HEADQUARTERS AND HEAD-QUARTERS COMPANY, 5TH TRANSPORTATION COMMAND significantly reduced pilferage losses. Exhibiting extensive administrative and operational expertise in the skillful employment of local nationals, they achieved outstanding success in the cost savings program. Through effective planning, coordination and supervision of the multitude of complex tasks inherent in port operations, the personnel of the company materially aided combat maneuvers in the II Corps Tactical Zone and 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 HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 5TH TRANSPORTATION COM-MAND are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon them and upon the Armed Forces of the United States.

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4. THE 53D SIGNAL BATTALION (CORPS) and its attached unit: 16th Signal Detachment (Photo)

The citation reads as follows:

The 53D SIGNAL BATTALION (CORPS) and its attached unit distinguished themselves in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 July 1967 to 30 June 1968. Demonstrating professional competence and relentless determination, the officers and men of the battalion rendered excellent multichannel communication support to Headquarters, II Field Force Vietnam and its major subordinate units. Through their initiative and versatility, they overcame the multitude of difficulties inherent in their operations and fulfilled the demanding requirements of their diverse mission in a timely and efficient manner. By effectively utilizing available resources and continually maintaining a high degree of material readiness, the members of the 53D SIGNAL BATTALION exacted the greatest capability from their signal equipment and provided highly reliable radio relay service to Allied units engaged in strategic tactical maneuvers. Despite encountering heavy enemy rocket and mortar fire during the TET Offensive, they responded rapidly to restore damaged systems and maintain effective communications with a minimum of outages. Through their tireless efforts, technical expertise and total dedication to providing the finest possible communication support to combat elements throughout the III Corps Tactical Zone, 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 53D SIGNAL BATTALION are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon them and upon the Armed Forces of the United States.

5. THE 67TH EVACUATION HOSPITAL and its attached unit: 138th Neurosurgical Detachment (for the period 21 April 1967 to 30 April 1968)

The citation reads as follows:

The 67TH EVACUATION HOSPITAL and its attached unit distinguished themselves in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 6 October 1966 to 30 April 1968. Demonstrating technical competence and exceptional dedication, the officers and men of the hospital excelled in their mission of providing treatment to United States military and civilian personnel and other free world forces in the II Corps Tactical Zone. Through professional knowledge, administrative ability and singular initiative, they overcame the multitude of complex problems inherent in their extensive area of responsibility. During Operation ORE-GON, the battle of Dak To, the 1968 TET Offensive and other major operations in the northern half of the theater, the members of the 67TH EVACUATION HOSPITAL worked long and arduous hours in meeting the urgency of the demands of the mass influx of battle casualties. Showing an intense concern for the local populace, they successfully established a civilian outpatient clinic in Qui Nhon and provided outstanding medical service to the Vietnamese people. Through unrelenting perseverance and sound judgment, the hospital staff provided the optimum in medical care to combat casualties and contributed immeasurably to the Allied struggle against Communist aggression in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 67TH EVACUATION HOSPITAL are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon them and upon the Armed Forces of the United States.

6. THE HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT, 394TH TRANSPORTATION BATTALION (TERMINAL)

The citation reads as follows:

The HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT, 394TH TRANSPORTATION BATTALION (TERMINAL) distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 July 1968 to 31 December 1968. Through dynamic leadership and exceptional foresight, the officers and men of the detachment provided outstanding logistical, technical and administrative supervision to Allied elements supplying direct service support to combat units in the II Corps Tactical Zone. While effectively directing the discharge of vitally needed supplies and equipment in the complex operations of the Port of Qui Nhon, they implemented an extensive stevedore civilianization program. The professional competence and organizational expertise of the members of HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS DETACH-MENT, 394TH TRANSPORTATION BATTALION was manifested in their intensive training and skillful management of a local national workforce of more than 1,000 which enabled the transfer of necessary military personnel to other units supporting Project Count. Despite critical losses of manpower, they continually maintained high standards of security in keeping pilferage at a minimum and significantly reduced the deadline rate of automotive and materials-handling equipment. Through their unrelenting perseverance, seemingly limitless capacity for work and dedication to mission accomplishment, 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 HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT, 394TH TRANSPORTATION BATTALION are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon them and upon the Armed Forces of the United States.

7. THE 517TH ENGINEER DETACHMENT (TERRAIN) The citation reads as follows:

The 517TH ENGINEER DETACHMENT (TERRAIN) distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 July 1967 through 31 December 1968. The officers and men of the detachment demonstrated extraordinary diligence, initiative and consummate skill in providing exceptional engineer intelligence for Head-quarters, II Field Force Vietnam. During the period, they efficiently produced and disseminated over forty intelligence studies involving critical investigations and detailed analysis of all terrain factors under engineer consideration having influence on combat operations. Manifesting rare tenacity and dedication to accomplishing their assigned tasks, the members of the 517TH ENGINEER DETACHMENT completed more than 1,000 aerial reconnaissance flights over hostile territory in collecting information for preparation of meaningful reports. By ensuring the maximum in timely

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and accurately produced intelligence, they provided a reliable base on which to found command-and-control decisions, thereby enhancing the effectiveness of Headquarters, II Field Force Vietnam and significantly contributing to its successful operations against the enemy. Their sound judgment, professional competence and high standards in rendering vital engineer intelligence support materially advanced 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 517TH ENGINEER DETACHMENT are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon them and upon the Armed Forces of the United States.

8. THE 704TH MAINTENANCE BATTALION, 4TH INFANTRY DIVISION

The citation reads as follows:

The 704TH MAINTENANCE BATTALION, 4TH INFANTRY DI-VISION distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 November 1967 to 30 November 1968. Demonstrating technical competence and unique versatility, the officers and men of the battalion provided outstanding maintenance and repair parts support to combat forces of the 4th Infantry Division. Operating simulaneously from fixed base camps and frequently changing field locations throughout the Central Highlands, they rendered efficient and effective maintenance service in sustaining the materiel-readiness posture of tactical elements. Despite the hazards of intense enemy activity during the Battle of Dak To and the TET Offensive, the members of the 704TH MAIN-TENANCE BATTALION, 4TH INFANTRY DIVISION disregarded their own safety and made numerous field repairs on combat-essential vehicles and equipment. Their valuable technical assistance ensured fighting units of a high level of firepower and mobility and contributed immeasurably to the overwhelming successes of the command. Realizing the importance of civic actions to the war effort, the battalion's personnel selflessly sacrificed untold time and energy in Civil Affairs activities which significantly aided the health, education and economic needs of the Vietnamese people. Through their singular initiative, unrelenting perseverance and total dedication to mission accomplishment, they materially advanced 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 704TH MAINTENANCE BATTALION, 4TH IN-FANTRY DIVISION are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon them and upon the Armed Forces of the United States.

9. THE 934TH MEDICAL DETACHMENT (DENTAL SERVICE)

The citation reads as follows:

The 934TH MEDICAL DETACHMENT (DENTAL SERVICE) distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 January 1967 to 30 November 1968. Demonstrating exceptional dedication and comprehensive technical skill, the officers and men of the detachment provided superior dental care to fighting forces throughout the I and II Corps Tactical Zones. With their professional

knowledge, administrative ability and singular initiative, they overcame the multitude of complex problems inherent in their extensive area of responsibility. By utilizing all available resources and capabilities, they successfully pioneered the establishment of an effective combat dental service and rendered outstanding treatment to scattered troop concentrations. Exhibiting a seemingly limitless capacity for work, the members of the 934TH MEDICAL DETACHMENT spent long and arduous hours in the construction, repair, and improvement of facilities to increase the professional standards of their service. Showing an intense concern for the local populace, they devoted substantial time and effort to civic action programs, providing needed dental care to thousands of Vietnamese people. Through their unrelenting perseverance and sound medical judgment, they provided the optimum in dental service and contributed immeasurably to the free world effort against Communist aggression in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion displayed by the members of the 934TH MEDICAL DETACHMENT are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon them and upon the Armed Forces of the United States.

10. THE UNITED STATES ARMY MORTUARY, SAIGON The citation reads as follows:

The UNITED STATES ARMY MORTUARY, SAIGON distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 May 1967 through 30 September 1968. The officers and men of this unit demonstrated extraordinary competence and selfless dedication in providing excellent mortuary support to United States and free world military forces and noncombatant personnel who gave their lives throughout the theater. By implementing the concurrent return program, they were extremely effective in processing the remains and in providing for the disposition of property of all deceased or missing servicemen to the next of kin. Their outstanding record in making accurate identification of remains attests to the professional and expeditious manner in which the members of the UNITED STATES ARMY MORTUARY, SAIGON handled the difficult tasks of their highly essential and sensitive mission. By giving fully of their time and talents, they instituted a similar program for the Vietnamese Armed Forces through a series of classes and demonstrations. The efficiency and responsiveness of the men of the unit in reacting immediately to any circumstance was instrumental to the success of the Army Memorial Affairs Program and contributed immeasurably to the Allied effort against Communist aggression in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the UNITED STATES ARMY MORTUARY, SAIGON are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon them and upon the Armed Forces of the United States.

II_AIR FORCE OUTSTANDING UNIT AWARD. Award of the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award to the following named United States Army Units is confirmed in accordance with paragraph 194, AR 672-5-1:

"A" Branch, United States Army Security Agency Processing Center Microbarograph Shop, United States Army Security Agency, Material Support Command United States Army Signal Research Unit, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11,

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12, 15, 17 and 20. For exceptionally meritorious service in support of military operations from 1 April 1967 to 30 September 1968. (Special Order GB-169, Department of the Air Force, Washington, D.C. dated 2 April 1969.)

III__MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION. So much of paragraph 11, Section V, DA General Orders 42, 1969, pertaining to the award of the Meritorious Unit Commendation to the 35th Land Clearing Platoon, as reads: "The 35th Land Clearing Platoon, 937th Engineer Group (Combat)," is amended to read: "The 35th Land Clearing Platoon, 20th Engineer Battalion (Combat)." IV__VIETNAM CAMPAIGN PARTICIPATION CREDIT. 1. So much of paragraph 3, Section II, DA General Orders 83, 1968, pertaining to the Vietnam Advisory Campaign, as reads: "509th Radio Repair Unit Group," is amended to read: "509th Radio Research Group."

- 2. Paragraph 3, Section III, DA General Orders 83, 1968, pertaining to the Vietnam Defense Campaign; Paragraph 3, Section IV, DA General Orders 83, 1968, pertaining to the Vietnam Counteroffensive Campaign and paragraph 3, Section V, DA General Orders 83, 1968, pertaining the Vietnam Counteroffensive Phase II Campaign, are amended to add: "27th Maintenance Battalion."

 3. Paragraph 3, Section III, DA General Orders 83, 1968, pertaining to the Vietnam Defensive Campaign, is amended to delete: "266th Quartermaster Battalion."
- 4. Paragraph 3, Section III, DA General Orders 83, 1968, pertaining to the Vietnam Defense Campaign; paragraph 3, Section IV, DA General Orders 83, 1968, pertaining to the Vietnam Counteroffensive Campaign and paragraph 3, Section V, DA General Orders 83, 1968, pertaining to the Vietnam Counteroffensive Phase II Campaign, are amended to add: "227th Aviation Battalion." 5. So much of paragraph 3, Section V, DA General Orders 83, 1968, pertaining to the Vietnam Counteroffensive Phase II Campaign, as reads: "218th Reconnaissance Airplane Company," is amended to read: "219th Aviation Company." 6. Paragraph 3, Section V, DA General Orders 83, 1968, pertaining to the Vietnam Counteroffensive II Campaign, is amended to delete: "The 48th Transportation Company."
- 7. So much of paragraph 3, Section V, DA General Orders 83, 1968, pertaining to the Vietnam Counteroffensive Phase II Campaign, as reads: "1st Transport Battalion," is amended to read: "1st Transportation Battalion."

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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