

GENERAL ORDERS

No. 70

HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, DC, 13 November 1969

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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 units of the United States Army for exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service during the periods indicated:

1. THE 5TH BATTALION (AUTOMATIC WEAPONS) (SELF PROPELLED), 2D ARTILLERY, its assigned and attached units:

Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 5th Battalion, 2d Artillery
 Battery A, 5th Battalion, 2d Artillery
 Battery B, 5th Battalion, 2d Artillery
 Battery C, 5th Battalion, 2d Artillery
 Battery D, 5th Battalion, 2d Artillery
 Battery I, 29th Artillery
 Battery D, 71st Artillery

The citation reads as follows:

The 5TH BATTALION (AUTOMATIC WEAPONS) (SELF PROPELLED), 2D ARTILLERY, its assigned and attached units distinguished themselves in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 5 April 1967 to 30 September 1968. Throughout the period, the officers and men of the unit exhibited determined resourcefulness and marked aggressiveness in providing support for maneuver elements in over eighty major combat operations. With their exceptional versatility and flexibility of automatic weapons, the personnel in the varied elements of the battalion operated simultaneously in as many as forty-three tactical locations over a 14,000 square mile area, performing diverse armored cavalry missions with great efficiency and effectiveness. By rapidly responding to changing tactical requirements, the men of the 5TH BATTALION, 2D ARTILLERY ensured the highest caliber of support for the large influx of infantry troops moved to the II Field Force area of operations to counter the enemy's 1968 TET Offensive. Showing concern for the needs of the local populace, they successfully established a base camp Medical Civic Action program providing daily expert medical treatment to Vietnamese adults and children. Through their professional competence, singular initiative and unrelenting perseverance, the men of the unit 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 5TH BATTALION, 2D ARTILLERY 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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2. THE 5TH SPECIAL FORCES GROUP (AIRBORNE), 1ST SPECIAL FORCES, its assigned and attached units:

- Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 5th Special Forces Group
- Company A, 5th Special Forces Group
- Company B, 5th Special Forces Group
- Company C, 5th Special Forces Group
- Company D, 5th Special Forces Group
- Signal Company, 5th Special Forces Group
- Special Operation Augmentation, 5th Special Forces Group
- 21st Military History Detachment
- 31st Engineer Detachment
- 251st Signal Detachment
- 487th Signal Detachment
- 522d Signal Detachment
- 540th Signal Detachment
- 585th Military Intelligence Detachment
- 588th Military Intelligence Detachment
- 613th Military Intelligence Detachment
- 629th Military Intelligence Detachment
- 630th Military Intelligence Detachment
- 631st Military Intelligence Detachment
- 633d Military Intelligence Detachment
- 634th Military Intelligence Detachment
- 641st Military Intelligence Detachment
- 703d Military Intelligence Detachment
- 403d Radio Research Special Operations Detachment
- Epidemiological Survey Team

The citation reads as follows:

The 5TH SPECIAL FORCES GROUP (AIRBORNE), 1ST SPECIAL FORCES, its assigned and attached units distinguished themselves in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 31 January 1968 to 31 December 1968. The officers and men of the group demonstrated the highest standards of professional soldiering in the outstanding performance of myriad complex tasks throughout the entire theater. Engaged in numerous strategic combat operations, they successfully trained and led Vietnamese Special Forces and Civilian Irregular Defense Group personnel in the accumulation of vital information concerning enemy activity, the denial of large geographical areas and infiltration routes to hostile forces and the destruction of enemy havens and bunker complexes. By maintaining a most sophisticated intelligence network, organizing "Go Teams" and utilizing Hoi Chanh and refugees, the men of the 5TH SPECIAL FORCES GROUP provided valuable intelligence information to Allied forces and Army of the Republic of Vietnam units. Through their personal involvement with numerous Civic Action projects and their fine coordination of psychological operations with many foreign and domestic agencies, the local populace gained confidence in their government to provide them with services and aid in time of need. With unrelenting perseverance and singular initiative, they significantly 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 5TH SPECIAL FORCES GROUP are in keeping with the highest tradi-

tions of military service and reflect distinct credit upon them and upon the Armed Forces of the United States.

3. THE 7TH BATTALION, 13TH ARTILLERY

The citation reads as follows:

The 7TH BATTALION, 13TH ARTILLERY distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 9 November 1966 to 31 December 1968. The officers and men of the unit demonstrated marked aggressiveness, consummate knowledge and professional skill in providing critical fire support to United States, Army of the Republic of Vietnam and Free World Military Assistance forces throughout the II Corps Tactical Zone. Despite limited resources and extremely hazardous conditions, they frequently functioned in a direct support role and employed rapid and accurate firepower to aid Allied maneuver forces engaged in Operations MENG HO 7, THAYER II, PERSHING, PERSHING II, PATRICK, VELVET HAMMER, and COCHISE. To increase the effectiveness of mutual fire support, the members of the 7TH BATTALION, 13TH ARTILLERY established and maintained close liaison with Army of the Republic of Vietnam batteries, vigorously participated in the Associate Battery Program and provided expert instruction to Regional Forces/Popular Forces personnel in observed fire procedures. Showing concern for the Vietnamese people, they selflessly devoted time and materials to Medical Civic Action Programs I and II which contributed immensely to the health, education and economic needs of the local populace. Through their courageous efforts, outstanding initiative and unrelenting perseverance, the men of the unit 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 7TH BATTALION, 13TH ARTILLERY 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.

4. HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 35TH ENGINEER GROUP (CONSTRUCTION)

The citation reads as follows:

HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 35TH ENGINEER GROUP (CONSTRUCTION) distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 September 1967 to 31 January 1969. The officers and men of the company demonstrated unusual resourcefulness and technical expertise in providing excellent engineering support throughout the II Corps Tactical Zone. Exercising command and control of up to seven battalions and ten separate companies dispersed over an area in excess of 14,000 square miles, the personnel of the unit manifested exceptional foresight and dynamic leadership in guiding subordinate units to unparalleled levels of effectiveness and engineering professionalism. The members of HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 35TH ENGINEER GROUP (CONSTRUCTION) initiated, developed and coordinated extensive lines of communications and road opening programs which encompassed many major arteries throughout the coastal area of the II Corps Tactical Zone. Their aggressive actions and rapid response to critical requirements imposed by the 1968 TET Offensive were significant in rebuilding facilities at Phan Rang, Da Lat, Nha Trang and Tuy Hoa. This vigorous construction program denied the enemy a tactical advantage and contributed greatly to the

outstanding combat successes enjoyed by field commanders. Through their unrelenting perseverance, singular initiative and consummate knowledge of engineering concepts, the unit's members 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 men of HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 35TH ENGINEER GROUP (CONSTRUCTION) 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 84TH ENGINEER BATTALION (CONSTRUCTION) and its attached units:

513th Engineer Company (Dump Truck) (1 November 1967 to 13 September 1968)

536th Engineer Platoon (Port Construction) (1 July 1968 to 31 December 1968)

The citation reads as follows:

The 84TH ENGINEER BATTALION (CONSTRUCTION) and its attached units distinguished themselves in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 November 1967 to 31 December 1968. With personal dedication and professional competence, the officers and men of the battalion provided excellent engineering support to free world military assistance forces throughout the II Corps Tactical Zone. The determined efforts and unique resourcefulness of all assigned personnel enabled them to successfully complete their engineering missions despite severe logistical obstacles imposed by heavy monsoon rains and a hostile environment. Significant among the numerous accomplishments of the members of the 84TH ENGINEER BATTALION (CONSTRUCTION) was the expansion of a vital ammunition supply point and the development of the Sea-Land Containership Service Terminal at Qui Nhon, completion of a sophisticated automatic data processing systems building at Long My and strategic repair and improvement of over 100 miles of main highway along the coastal area. Through their unrelenting perseverance, singular initiative and consummate knowledge of engineering concepts, the unit's members 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 84TH ENGINEER BATTALION (CONSTRUCTION) 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. MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION. 1. Paragraph 10, Section II, DA General Orders 48, 1968, pertaining to the award of the Meritorious Unit Commendation to the 12th Aviation Group its assigned and attached units, is amended to add the words, "1 February 1967 to 31 December 1967", after the 335th Aviation Company.

2. Paragraph 17, Section II, DA General Orders 48, 1968, pertaining to the award of the Meritorious Unit Commendation to the 34th General Support Group (Aircraft Maintenance and Supply) its assigned and attached units, is amended to add the words, "1 December 1966 to 31 October 1967", after Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 14th Transportation Battalion.

3. Paragraph 22, Section II, DA General Orders 48, 1968, pertaining to the award of the Meritorious Unit Commendation to the 173d Airborne Brigade (Separate) its assigned and attached units, as reads: "335th Airmobile Company (Formerly Company A, 82d Aviation Battalion)", is amended to read: "Company A, 82d Aviation Battalion (for the period 1 August 1966 to 31 January 1967)".

4. Paragraph 11, Section V, DA General Orders 42, 1969, as amended by Section III, DA General Orders 56, 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, "35th Engineer Platoon (Land Clearing), 35th Engineer Battalion (Combat)".

5. Paragraph 11, DA General Orders 48, 1969, pertaining to the award of the Meritorious Unit Commendation to the 92d Military Police Battalion and its assigned units, is amended to add the words, "1 January 1968 through 30 September 1968", after 560th Military Police Company.

III--VIETNAMESE CROSS OF GALLANTRY WITH PALM. 1. Paragraph 2, Section III, DA General Orders 59, 1969, pertaining to the award of the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Palm to the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) its assigned and attached units, is amended to add the words, "9 August 1965 through 13 November 1965 and 17 November 1965 through 19 May 1969", after 1st Battalion, 7th Cavalry.

2. Paragraph 2, Section III, DA General Orders 59, 1969, pertaining to the award of the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Palm to the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) its assigned and attached units, is amended to add the words, "Company B, 9 August 1965 through 13 November 1965 and 17 November 1965 through 19 May 1969" and the words, "Company A, 9 August 1965 through 14 November 1965 and 17 November 1965 through 19 May 1969", after 2d Battalion, 7th Cavalry.

3. Paragraph 5, Section VIII, DA General Orders 59, 1969, pertaining to the award of the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Palm to the 1st Aviation Battalion, is amended to read, "1st Aviation Brigade".

IV--VIETNAM CAMPAIGN PARTICIPATION CREDIT. 1. Paragraph 3, Section II, DA General Orders 47, 1969, pertaining to the Vietnam Counteroffensive Phase III Campaign, is amended to add, "6th Battalion, 11th Artillery".

2. Paragraph 3, Section II, DA General Orders 54, 1969, pertaining to the TET Counteroffensive Campaign, is amended to add, "6th Battalion, 11th Artillery".

3. Paragraph 3, Section II, DA General Orders 54, 1969, pertaining to the TET Counteroffensive Campaign, is amended to add, "Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 16th Aviation Group".

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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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