

GENERAL ORDERS

No. 7

HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
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I. THE PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION (ARMY). 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 United States is confirmed in accordance with paragraph 194, AR 672-5-1. The text of the citation, signed by President Richard Nixon, 7 March 1970, 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

BATTERY B, 2D BATTALION, 19TH ARTILLERY
1ST CAVALRY DIVISION

AND THE FOLLOWING ATTACHED UNITS

BATTERY C, 6TH BATTALION, 16TH ARTILLERY
COMPANY C, 1ST BATTALION, 12TH CAVALRY
DETACHMENT, 11TH PATHFINDER COMPANY
DETACHMENT, 229TH AVIATION BATTALION

1ST PLATOON, TROOP D, 1ST SQUADRON, 9TH CAVALRY
UNITED STATES ARMY

Battery B, 2d Battalion, 19th Artillery and its attached units distinguished themselves by extraordinary heroism in action against hostile forces at Landing Zone Bird, Binh Dinh Province in the Republic of Vietnam, on 27 December 1966. During the early morning hours, two North Vietnamese Army battalions, under cover of heavy mortar, recoilless rifle and machinegun fires, launched human wave assaults against the outnumbered defenders of the landing zone. The artillerymen lowered the tubes of their howitzers and placed direct fire into the charging enemy ranks as they overran the perimeter defensive positions. As the determined enemy forces continued their assault and penetrated the position, the artillerymen increased the tempo of their fires, supporting the rifle and grenade fire of the infantrymen. The enemy assault continued until he overran four of the six howitzer positions of Battery C, 6th Battalion, 16th Artillery. The displaced guncrews regrouped around the remaining howitzer positions and continued to place effective fire on the attackers. The gun sections, supporting the heavy rifle and grenade fire from the infantry, poured devastating antipersonnel rounds into the enemy penetration halting his attack. Exploiting the fire of the howitzers, a composite force of artillerymen and infantry launched a counterattack which recovered the overrun howitzers and drove the enemy from the position. The guncrews remanned their recaptured howitzers

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and conducted an aggressive pursuit-by-fire upon the fleeing enemy and his withdrawal routes while the infantrymen reestablished the defensive perimeter. At daylight, 211 enemy dead were found in and around the landing zone. The men of Battery B, 2d Battalion, 19th Artillery and its attached units, by their outstanding bravery, determination, esprit de corps, and devotion to duty, decimated a superior enemy force and maintained the integrity of a key forward support base while, in so doing, bringing great credit on themselves, their units and the United States Army."

II. MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION. 1. 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 unit of the Australian Army for exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service during the period indicated:

THE AUSTRALIAN ARMY TRAINING TEAM, VIETNAM

with citation as follows:

The Australian Army Training Team, Vietnam distinguished itself by exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services from July 1962 to August 1969. Throughout the foregoing period, the members of this valiant team consistently manifested professional competence and the highest degree of dedication in their advisory efforts on behalf of a beleaguered nation—the Republic of Vietnam. As an operational entity composed of individually selected volunteers, the Australian Army Training Team, Vietnam displayed unexcelled initiative, relentless perseverance, and undaunted courage in providing advice and assistance which enhanced the ability of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Vietnam to engage and defeat the enemy on the battlefield. In addition to furnishing technical knowledge with respect to complex tactical operations, this motivated organization offered its expertise to aid in the implementation of the Civil Operations and Revolutionary Development Support Program. Its accomplishments in this latter area were reflected most vividly in the remarkable progress achieved within the social and cultural spheres of life among the Vietnamese people. Through its dynamic participation as a staunch member of the free world military assistance forces, the Australian Army Training Team, Vietnam contributed conspicuously to the development and maintenance of a stable and viable nation while operating in a hostile environment. The Australian Army Training Team, Vietnam performed in consonance with the highest traditions of the military and has brought distinct credit to itself and to the Commonwealth of Australia.

2. 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 Armed Forces of the United States for exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service during the period indicated:

DEFENSE COMMUNICATIONS AGENCY, SOUTHEAST ASIA
MAINLAND REGION AND ASSIGNED UNITS

DEFENSE COMMUNICATIONS AGENCY, SOUTHEAST ASIA
MAINLAND (APRIL 1965 TO APRIL 1969)

DEFENSE COMMUNICATIONS AGENCY, SOUTHEAST ASIA
MAINLAND, THAILAND (SEPTEMBER 1965 TO APRIL 1969)

The citation reads as follows:

The Defense Communications Agency, Southeast Asia Mainland Region and assigned units distinguished themselves in Vietnam and Thailand in support of military operations in Southeast Asia from April 1965 to April 1969. The members of this Agency demonstrated extraordinary diligence, initiative, and consummate skill in providing communications operational direction and management support to allied forces in the combat zone. Immediately upon arrival in Southeast Asia, they took positive and aggressive actions toward the massive task of establishing a single managership of the complex communications systems then existent in Vietnam and Thailand, with the dual objective of satisfying the rapid troop buildup already in progress and establishing the means for optimum utilization and control of the network. Working in coordination with the joint and military departmental headquarters, Defense Communications Agency personnel established Regional Operation Control Centers to provide operational direction over the rapidly expanding Integrated Wideband Communications System and furnish key commanders and staffs with current data and status on the performance of the system. Assuming greater responsibility as the communications demands by field commanders increased, the Region responded with rare tenacity to establish professional engineering, plans, implementations, circuit and analysis, and field sections capable of directing and managing the vast network to provide high quality, multichannel voice, teletypewriter, and data communications to free world allied forces and United States Government agencies. Operating under conditions of adverse environment and severe manning shortages, members persevered selflessly to identify those systems and circuits requiring upgrading to meet established quality criteria and long haul reliability in support of large allied troop deployments and combat missions and to maintain effective command and control throughout all Southeast Asia. In coordination with the joint headquarters and the services, the Region performed in an outstanding manner to direct major system outages for rapid restoral of critical communications and to assist in solving unique interface problems which plagued the Integrated Communications System with its tactical extensions from the outset. Personnel of these units played a significant role toward the introduction of high speed digital, secure communications into the in-country system by developing implementation plans and engineering studies to insure the successful and timely completion of major projects. By their remarkable demonstration of proficiency and devotion to duty, in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service, the members of the Defense Communications Agency, Southeast Asia Mainland Region, have reflected distinct credit on themselves and the Defense Establishment of the United States.

3. 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 unit of the United States Army for exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service during the period indicated:

THE UNITED STATES ARMY HOSPITAL, CAMP ZAMA,
UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL COMMAND, JAPAN

with citation as follows:

The United States Army Hospital, Camp Zama, United States Army Medical Command, Japan, distinguished itself by exceptionally meritorious service

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during the period January 1966 through October 1969. The unit displayed outstanding devotion and superior performance of exceptionally difficult tasks, setting it apart and above other units with similar missions. Throughout the cited period, personnel of the United States Army Hospital, Camp Zama, provided continuous medical treatment for local active duty personnel and their dependents in addition to definitive in-patient care for Southeast Asia evacuees. Its excellence is attested to by its exemption from the annual general inspection (AGI) for fiscal year 1970 because of highly efficient results obtained during the AGI for fiscal year 1969, its unexcelled and unequalled rating on the command maintenance management inspection (CMMI) for fiscal year 1969, averaging a score of 98 in all areas inspected, and its unconditional accreditation for a period of three years based on its most recent survey by the Joint Commission on Hospital Accreditation in August 1968. The United States Army Hospital, Camp Zama, never compromised its mission, though maintaining an inspection readiness at all times, continuously giving of itself above and beyond that required to insure maximum patient care. Significant among its many accomplishments was the processing of more than 4,000 treatments through its radioisotope clinic, which was the only one of its kind in the Far East. Its overall professional proficiency and dedication to duty clearly set it apart from other units with a similar mission and reflect great credit upon every member of the hospital and the Army Medical Department. The unit further surpassed other units in the command with similar missions on its annual CMMI for fiscal year 1969. The CMMI resulted in the highest scores ever attained by a unit of this command. The average score was 98. By utilizing the self-help program, many clinic and administrative areas were renovated at a tremendous savings to the United States Government. Of particular note is the recently completed patient's lounge area which, for the most part, was constructed by volunteer labor during off-duty hours. During periods of increased patient activity, the entire hospital staff increased their workday to a minimum of 12 hours to insure patient care was not hampered. This single-minded dedication to the care of the sick and wounded soldier demonstrates a standard found in few units. The hospital was always cognizant of its responsibility to maintain good relations with its Japanese counterparts. Throughout the cited period, there was a continuous professional academic interchange between physicians at this hospital and Japanese hospitals, particularly in the fields of dermatology, plastic surgery, ophthalmology, pediatrics and radiology. Medical care for the United States Embassy, Japan personnel and consultation service on an emergency basis for foreign diplomats of other nations earned for the hospital a coveted scroll of appreciation from the Department of State, United States of America. The skills of each individual member of the hospital team contributed to the common goal of "Conserving the fighting strength" and achieved an outstanding record of sustained service.

4. 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 period indicated:

HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 1ST
INFANTRY DIVISION AND ATTACHED UNITS:
1ST MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DETACHMENT
AND

AIR SURVEILLANCE TARGET ACQUISITION PLATOON
COMPANY B, 1ST AVIATION BATTALION, UNITED STATES ARMY

with citation as follows:

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Infantry Division and attached units distinguished themselves in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 January 1968 to 31 December 1968. The members of the foregoing units demonstrated extraordinary proficiency, expert professionalism, and perseverance in the performance of combat service support operations in the Republic of Vietnam. Through unerring work and devotion to duty, the units produced exceptional results in the accomplishment of all tasks undertaken. At times under extremely hazardous rocket and mortar barrages, the members of the units dauntlessly pursued the support operations needed to keep the men in the field supplied with equipment, replacements, medical aid and supplies, intelligence information, and fire support and simultaneously participated in defense of Lai Khe Base Camp. Through aggressive determination and unrelenting professional skill, personnel of Headquarters and attached units have materially contributed to the ability of the 1st Infantry Division to consistently inflict decisive defeats on the insurgents. Sparing no effort and with complete disregard for their own personal safety the men overcame numerous obstacles to accomplish their assigned missions and more. The tenacity and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by members of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Infantry Division and attached units are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on them and the Armed Forces of the United States.

III. MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION. Section III, DA General Orders Number 45, 16 July 1969, pertaining to the award of the Meritorious Unit Commendation to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, I Field Force Vietnam and assigned units, is amended to add: "31st Detachment, 5th Weather Squadron (1 Aug 65 to 7 Jul 66), and Naval Gunfire Liaison Office. Additionally, the Tactical Airlift Liaison Organization and Direct Air Command Support ALPHA are not units and are not entitled to receive a unit award. However, United States Air Force personnel who contributed to the mission of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, I Field Force Vietnam, United States Army, can share in the award of the Meritorious Unit Commendation on an individual basis. Headquarters, Department of the Air Force will attempt to identify those individuals and advise them of their entitlement to this award."

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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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