

GENERAL ORDERS

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HEADQUARTERS
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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 unit 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 20 May 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 THE

2D BATTALION, 12TH CAVALRY,

1ST CAVALRY DIVISION (AIRMOBILE)

AND TO

TROOP B, 1ST SQUADRON

1ST CAVALRY REGIMENT

UNITED STATES ARMY

The 2d Battalion, 12th Cavalry, supported by Troop B, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, distinguished itself by extraordinary heroism in combat during the period 2 January to 12 February 1968, in countering the North Vietnamese Army's Winter-Spring Offensive in Quang Nam Province, Republic of Vietnam. In five major engagements with enemy battalion- or larger-sized units, the men of the 2d Battalion, 12th Cavalry decisively defeated numerically superior enemy forces. Sacrificing hundreds of men, the enemy attempted in vain to hold positions or to seize objectives from the battalion in both defensive and offensive operations. The battalion never faltered in its aggressive assault against a determined and well-equipped foe. Crushing enemy initiative and rupturing enemy lines of communication, the battalion prevented the enemy from driving free world forces from the strategic Que Son Valley, which was key terrain in the battle for control of Quang Nam Province. Other heroic assaults against enemy positions in the Que Son Valley prevented the enemy from organizing to reinforce his units attacking the city of Hue. On 4 February the battalion was encircled by elements of the 6th North Vietnamese Army Regiment. Even though the enemy attempted to annihilate the battalion with human wave assaults near the hamlet of Thon Que Chu, the battalion's battle

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line held fast, and, during the night, the battalion exfiltrated without detection through the encircling enemy into positions even deeper within enemy lines of communication. This unexpected maneuver completely surprised the North Vietnamese Army forces (estimated at over 2,000 troops) and placed the battalion on commanding terrain inside the enemy rear area. From its new base, the battalion interdicted large enemy forces and continued surveillance on enemy movement to and from Hue. From the Que Son Valley to the outskirts of Hue, the 2d Battalion, 12th Cavalry and Troop B, 1st Squadron, 1st Armored Cavalry Regiment showed their gallant fighting timber during many days of sustained combat. Their outstanding bravery, determination, esprit de corps, and devotion to duty blunted the enemy offensive and brought great credit upon them, their unit, and the United States Army.

II. PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION (ARMY). Award of the Presidential Unit Citation (Army) by the President of the United States of America to the following unit 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 16 April 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

THE 3RD PLATOON, COMPANY A, 2D BATTALION,

27TH INFANTRY, 2D BRIGADE, 25TH INFANTRY DIVISION

UNITED STATES ARMY

The 3rd Platoon, Company A, 2d Battalion, 27th Infantry distinguished itself by extraordinary heroism in action against a hostile force in the vicinity of Tay Ninh, Tay Ninh Province, Republic of Vietnam, on 20 August 1968. After establishing an ambush patrol in a night location, enemy movement was sighted approximately 125 meters to the front. The order was given to engage the enemy, and, within a few seconds after the initial machinegun burst, the enemy retaliated with a tremendous volume of automatic weapons and rocket-propelled grenade fire. Attacking in two separate columns around three-fourths of the perimeter, the enemy forces threatened to breach the perimeter wire barrier. Although outnumbered by approximately 10 to 1, the platoon members defended their position and in so doing displayed great courage and professional ability. With one of their primary defensive weapons rendered useless, their leader twice wounded, and a meager supply of ammunition the defenders out-fought the enemy for the next five and one-half hours. On several occasions enemy mass assaults came within but a few feet of penetrating the position before being repelled by Claymore mines and hand grenades. Using the fire-power of supporting aircraft and ground forces, the defenders inflicted a

devastating toll upon the attackers. The singleness of purpose and courage of the defenders gained victory in the face of overwhelming odds. By these actions the members of the 3rd Platoon have reflected the utmost credit upon themselves, their unit, and the United States Army.

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

THE UNITED STATES ARMY PACIFIC INTELLIGENCE SCHOOL

The citation reads as follows:

The United States Army Pacific Intelligence School is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period July 1968 to February 1970. The members of this unit demonstrated exceptional professional competence in the conduct of intelligence training of officers from the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces and from countries represented in the free world forces in Vietnam. These officers have subsequently served in units ranging in echelon from detachment to Joint General Staff. They have staffed combined intelligence centers and served as staff and faculty members of intelligence schools within their own countries. The School has played a vital role in furthering the Department of Defense Foreign Intelligence Assistance Program through developing the intelligence capabilities of allied armed forces. The outstanding accomplishments and devotion to duty displayed by members of the United States Army Pacific Intelligence School are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon them and the United States Army.

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

THE 7TH FIELD HOSPITAL, UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL COMMAND, JAPAN

with citation as follows:

The 7th Field Hospital, United States Army Medical Command, Japan, is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding medical treatment for patients evacuated from the Republic of Vietnam to Japan during the period 27 November 1965 to 25 January 1970. The personnel of the 7th Field Hospital exhibited outstanding devotion to duty, determination and professional competence, thus making it possible for the mission of the 7th Field Hospital to be performed in the most superior manner possible. Although organized as a field hospital, the 7th Field Hospital was required to operate as a station hospital. The personnel of this unit met this challenge with efficient teamwork, personal initiative, and aggressiveness in order to provide the highest level of medical care to all patients admitted to the hospital. With unrelenting perseverance, determined resourcefulness, and professional compe-

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tence, the members of the 7th Field Hospital accomplished the vital mission of conserving the fighting strength. The extraordinary diligence, tenacity, proficiency, and devotion to duty displayed by the personnel of the 7th Field Hospital are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon every member of the hospital, the Army Medical Department, and the United States Army.

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

HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 25TH

INFANTRY DIVISION AND ATTACHED UNITS:

9TH CHEMICAL DETACHMENT

18TH MILITARY HISTORY DETACHMENT

UNITED STATES ARMY

AND TO

OPERATING LOCATION NO. 4, 5TH WEATHER SQUADRON

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

The citation reads as follows:

The 25th Infantry Division Headquarters and Headquarters Company and attached units distinguished themselves in the conduct and support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam from January 1969 to June 1969. The members of the headquarters demonstrated extraordinary diligence, initiative and consummate skill in the coordination and control of all combat infantry division assets. During this period of intensive enemy activity the Division headquarters displayed unparalleled ability in the tactical employment and commitment of its organic and attached combat units. With timely intelligence and detailed and audacious planning the enemy was preempted at his every turn. Through comprehensive logistical organization and adroit personnel handling during this period the Division was without peer in combat service support activities. Thorough staff planning and coordination joined all section tasks into an effective and unified Division effort. Whether manning base camp perimeters or conducting civic action and medical civic action program operations the men of the headquarters demonstrated unbounded enthusiasm and a professional pride. The remarkable and imaginative proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 25th Infantry Division Headquarters and Headquarters Company and attached units are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon them and the Armed Forces of the United States.

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

HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, II FIELD

FORCE VIETNAM AND ITS SUPPORTING UNITS:

7TH MILITARY HISTORY DETACHMENT (1 September 1967 to
22 February 1969)

16TH PUBLIC INFORMATION DETACHMENT (1 September 1967 to
22 February 1969)

29TH CHEMICAL DETACHMENT (19 March 1968 to 22 February 1969)

44TH ARMY POSTAL UNIT (1 September 1967 to 22 February 1969)

The citation reads as follows:

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, II Field Force Vietnam and its supporting units distinguished themselves in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam from September 1967 to February 1969. During this period, personnel of these units performed an invaluable service in supporting and directing the activities of the free world military forces in III Corps Tactical Zone. The success of major allied efforts such as Operations ENTERPRISE, SHENANDOAH, YELLOWSTONE, SARATOGA, and MANCHESTER was ensured by the detailed planning and guidance on the part of members of Headquarters and Headquarters Company. In support of operational units under the control of Headquarters, II Field Force Vietnam, unit members provided a multitude of administrative services; collected and disseminated timely and accurate intelligence information; planned, constructed, and maintained roads, bridges, and airfields; ensured the maintenance of a comprehensive logistical network; and operated an elaborate communications system. Working in coordination with the Government of Vietnam and the Army of the Republic of Vietnam, unit personnel assisted thousands of refugees, provided medical aid, distributed needed commodities, and performed innumerable civic action projects. Such activities helped to create a more favorable image for all free world military forces and especially the Government of the Republic of Vietnam. Demonstrating devotion to duty and a high degree of professionalism, Headquarters Company personnel invariably strove to render the finest support possible, thereby furthering the attainment of free world counterinsurgency objectives in South Vietnam. The outstanding service rendered by the members of Headquarters and Headquarters Company and its supporting units was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects distinct credit upon them, II Field Force Vietnam, and the United States Army.

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5. 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:

THE 627TH HOSPITAL CENTER, UNITED STATES ARMY

The citation reads as follows:

The 627th Hospital Center is awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in support of the care of patients being medically evacuated from the Republic of Vietnam to Japan for the period January 1966 through January 1970. Relying on its extensive resources of highly professional, experienced, and dedicated personnel, the unit provided consistently superb assistance and technical guidance to all of its subordinate units. The 627th Hospital Center was designated to assume command and control of a large medical complex which consisted of four large hospitals, a medical laboratory, a medical depot, ground and air ambulance units, and other cellular units with a combined strength of almost 4,000 personnel. The arrival of three hospitals confronted the 627th Hospital Center with a problem of providing suitable hospital facilities to support the influx of patients from Southeast Asia. This mission was accomplished in the most economical and expeditious manner by converting existing buildings and warehouses into hospital wards and operating rooms. Recognizing that the hospitals were not capable of coping with the existing situation and that a fixed facility environment was needed, the 627th Hospital Center corrected the shortage and imbalance of skills. In addition, the 627th Hospital Center developed a centralized funding system, permitting better standardization of equipment, which resulted in reducing maintenance, minimizing repair parts inventories, and equipping the hospitals at minimum cost. The officers and enlisted men of the 627th Hospital Center met the difficult challenge of controlling and coordinating this unusually heavy workload by exhibiting a high degree of judgment and stamina in expeditiously adapting to the ever-changing demands of the Vietnam conflict. The professional expertise and the devotion to duty of its individual members, along with the exceptional accomplishments of the 627th Hospital Center as a whole, reflect the utmost credit upon every member of the unit, the Army Medical Department, and the United States Army.

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.

Distribution:

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