

GENERAL ORDERS

No. 54

HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
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I. VALOROUS UNIT AWARD. By direction of the Secretary of the Army, under the provisions of paragraph 202.1, AR 672-5-1, the Valorous Unit Award is awarded the following named units of the United States Army for extraordinary heroism while engaged in military operations during the period indicated:

The citation reads as follows:

THE 2D BATTALION, 5TH UNITED STATES CAVALRY and its attached units:

- Air Crew, Aircraft Number 65-12861, Aviation Platoon, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2d Brigade
- 1st, 2d, 3d and 4th Scout Dog Teams, 34th Infantry Platoon (Scout Dog)
- 1st Scout Dog Team, 40th Infantry Platoon (Scout Dog)
- Forward Observer Section, A Battery, 1st Battalion, 77th Artillery
- 3d Liaison Section, 1st Battalion, 77th Artillery
- 3d Platoon, Company B, 8th Engineer Battalion
- 228th Pathfinder Team, Pathfinder Platoon, 11th Aviation Group

The 2D BATTALION, 5TH UNITED STATES CAVALRY and its attached units distinguished themselves by extraordinary heroism while engaged in search and destroy operations in the vicinity of the Bong Son Coastal Plain, Republic of Vietnam on 11 March 1967. As Company C moved into a blocking position to support a mechanized sweep being executed by the 40th Infantry Regiment, Army of the Republic of Vietnam, it became engaged in an intense firefight with an enemy force of unknown size which occupied well-concealed and heavily fortified positions. The remaining organic elements of the 2D BATTALION, 5TH UNITED STATES CAVALRY were immediately committed to the battle. As the vicious battle raged on, casualties on both sides steadily increased, and attempts to bring in medical evacuation helicopters were thwarted by the heavy ground fire. By the skillful employment of artillery and aerially delivered flares, medical assistance was guided in during the night and the wounded were evacuated. When daybreak came, remnants of the defeated communist force had fled from the area of contact. In addition to accounting for sixteen enemy bodies and sixty-five captives, later reports indicated that the unit had reduced the 7th and 9th Battalions of the 18th North Vietnamese Army Regiment to non-effectiveness. The men of the 2D BATTALION, 5TH UNITED STATES CAVALRY displayed extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty which are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States.

II. 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:

The citations read as follows:

1. THE UNITED STATES ARMY STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS COMMAND LONG LINES BATTALION SOUTH.

For exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service: The UNITED STATES ARMY STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS COMMAND LONG LINES BATTALION SOUTH distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 April 1967 to 31 March 1968. The battalion utilized all technical skills at its disposal to accomplish the tremendous task of installing, operating and maintaining the Integrated Wideband Communications System throughout the southern half of the theater. Despite constant enemy harassment and other adversities inherent in the unconventional warfare environment, the unit ensured the provision of high quality, long distance communications service to subscribers in this area, including such critical headquarters as Military Assistance Command, Vietnam; United States Army Vietnam; and the American Embassy. The members of the UNITED STATES ARMY STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS LONG LINES BATTALION SOUTH demonstrated perseverance and resourcefulness in expanding the services and coverage furnished by the unit. When they came under frequent enemy mortar and rocket attack during the joint North Vietnamese Army/Viet Cong TET Offensive, the men maintained their calm professionalism and kept all communications systems in operation. Through their unrelenting determination, tenacity and total dedication to mission accomplishment, the battalion's members contributed immeasurably to the struggle against Communist aggression in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the UNITED STATES ARMY STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS COMMAND LONG LINES BATTALION SOUTH are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States.

2. THE HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT, UNITED STATES ARMY SUPPORT COMMAND, QUI NHON and its attached units:

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 972d Signal Battalion
384th Quartermaster Detachment

For exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service: The HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT, UNITED STATES ARMY SUPPORT COMMAND, QUI NHON and its attached units distinguished themselves in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 August 1966 to 30 April 1967. The members of the detachment applied their managerial acumen and professionalism to effectively supervise and astutely direct the activities of subordinate units, thereby ensuring that the free world military forces in their area of responsibility received the ultimate in logistical support. The HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT, UNITED STATES ARMY SUPPORT COMMAND, QUI NHON personnel demonstrated meticulous attention to detail in planning and monitoring the logistical support for thirteen major combat operations, and in no instance was an opera-

ation thwarted or hampered by lack of sufficient support. Also active in the area of civil affairs, they played a major role in the conduct of thirty self-help projects which were instrumental in developing pride of accomplishment within the local populace and gaining the support of the people for the United States effort. Through their technical expertise, responsiveness to the fluid combat situation and resourcefulness, the detachment's members materially advanced the struggle against Communist aggression in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT, UNITED STATES ARMY SUPPORT COMMAND, QUI NHON are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States.

3. THE HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT, 2D SIGNAL GROUP.

For exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service: The HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT, 2D SIGNAL GROUP distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 May 1967 to 29 February 1968. The detachment's personnel applied their organizational talents to ensure the maintenance of an effective communications system which supported multinational forces operating throughout the III and IV Corps Tactical Zones. When both United States Army Vietnam and Military Assistance Command Vietnam Headquarters were relocated, the men of the HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT, 2D SIGNAL GROUP worked long and arduous hours to rapidly establish secure communications between the two headquarters and major tactical units in the field. With total disregard for their own personal safety, they often traveled many miles by air and land through enemy infested territory in order to assure the perfection of communications systems and equipment which were vital to the success of numerous combat operations. In addition to their technical accomplishments, the men of the detachment managed a group Civic Action program which contributed nearly two hundred thousand Vietnamese dollars and distributed more than forty thousand pounds of food and almost five thousand pounds of clothing to Vietnamese hamlets. Through their initiative, resourcefulness and determination, they materially advanced the effort of the free world military forces in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT, 2D SIGNAL GROUP are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States.

4. THE 2D CIVIL AFFAIRS COMPANY.

For exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service: The 2D CIVIL AFFAIRS COMPANY distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 19 November 1966 to 29 February 1968. Upon arrival in country, the unit personnel immediately established a base camp and aggressively undertook the tremendous task of obtaining first-hand information concerning the problems encountered by the combat elements in the area of civil affairs. Utilizing all available resources, they worked tirelessly to resolve the most serious difficulty;

caring for refugees. The men of the 2D CIVIL AFFAIRS COMPANY moved entire villages, constructed new housing areas, built sanitation facilities and initiated a medical civic action program for each new village. Their efforts greatly expedited the handling of refugees in their area of responsibility, and consequently, revolutionary development objectives were materially advanced. The responsive and comprehensive civic action support rendered by the men to tactical units during numerous major combat operations significantly enhanced the pacification effort throughout the III and IV Corps Tactical Zones. Through their sincere interest in the welfare of the Vietnamese people and total dedication to mission accomplishment, the company's members contributed immeasurably to the military effort in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 2D CIVIL AFFAIRS COMPANY are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States.

5. THE 19TH SUPPLY AND SERVICE COMPANY and its attached units:
 291st QUARTERMASTER DETACHMENT
 293d QUARTERMASTER DETACHMENT

For exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service: The 19TH SUPPLY AND SERVICE COMPANY (DIRECT SUPPORT) and its attached units distinguished themselves in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 January 1967 to 31 December 1967. Although being hampered by a constant shortage of personnel and the numerous difficulties inherent in the unconventional warfare environment, the company provided excellent Class I support for all of the Qui Nhon area and furnished laundry and bath and graves registration service support to combat units operating throughout the II Corps Tactical Zone and in portions of the southern I Corps area. Among their many accomplishments, the members of the 19TH SUPPLY AND SERVICE COMPANY (DIRECT SUPPORT) effectively maintained a ration issuing facility for more than forty-four thousand troops, despite being equipped to support only fifteen thousand men. The men of the company expeditiously processed the remains of not only American casualties but also those of the Republic of Korea Army. Other members of the unit operated a bakery, which produced nearly four million pounds of bread for the troops in their area of responsibility. Through their determination, flexibility and resourcefulness, the company's members contributed immeasurably to the support of the combat soldier in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 19TH SUPPLY AND SERVICE COMPANY (DIRECT SUPPORT) are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States.

6. THE 1ST BATTALION, 21ST ARTILLERY, 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION.

For exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service: The 1ST BATTALION, 21ST ARTILLERY, 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION (AIRMOBILE) distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 February 1967 to 31 October 1967. Throughout this period the battalion provided the maneuver elements

of the 3d Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) with highly responsive and effective direct artillery support which contributed immeasurably to the success of Operations DAZZLEM, THAYER II, PERSHING, GREELEY, BYRD and WALLOWA. Employing all available means of target acquisition and utilizing all combat intelligence assets, the members of the unit detected and engaged well-concealed targets, and consequently, disrupted many of the enemy's well-planned operations, inflicted numerous casualties upon the Communist aggressors, and softened their resistance and will to fight. The men of the 1ST BATTALION, 21ST ARTILLERY, 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION (AIRMOBILE) demonstrated a sincere interest in the welfare of the Vietnamese, giving willingly of their time, money and material in various Civic Action programs, thereby gaining the support of the people for the United States mission. Through their initiative, resourcefulness and determination, the battalion's members materially advanced the military effort in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 1ST BATTALION, 21ST ARTILLERY, 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION (AIRMOBILE) are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States.

7. THE 38TH ADJUTANT GENERAL BASE POST OFFICE. *Revised Co 73 68*

For meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service: The 38TH ADJUTANT GENERAL BASE POST OFFICE distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 3 May 1967 to 10 February 1968. Operating with unique efficiency under extremely difficult conditions, the unit processed incoming and outgoing surface mail for the entire III and IV Corps Tactical Zones, meeting all challenges successfully and with dispatch. The speed, efficiency and diligence with which the 38TH ADJUTANT GENERAL BASE POST OFFICE performed all assigned tasks were instrumental in the prompt delivery of surface mail to United States troops in the southern half of the Republic of Vietnam. Although often subjected to hostile small arms, mortar and artillery fire during the period 31 January to 10 February, members of the unit continued to perform their mission in the same dedicated manner. Demonstrating combat proficiency seldom evidenced in support troops, unit personnel displayed valorous actions in the defense of key United States Army installations near the Tan Son Nhut Air Base. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 38TH ADJUTANT GENERAL BASE POST OFFICE are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States.

8. THE 39TH MEDICAL DETACHMENT

For exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service: The 39TH MEDICAL DETACHMENT (DENTAL SERVICE) distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 16 May 1966 to 16 May 1968. Demonstrating professional competence and determination, the officers and men of the detachment overcame the multitude of complex problems inherent in the unconventional warfare environment to provide superior dental support for free world military forces operating in the Qui Nhon, Tuy Hoa and Pleiku areas. Upon their arrival in country, they worked long and arduous hours constructing necessary facilities and living

quarters while simultaneously fulfilling their dental support mission. The men of the 39TH MEDICAL DETACHMENT (DENTAL SERVICE) established a harmonious relationship with the staff of the Korean dental facility, furnishing advice, assistance and materials when requested. They established an excellent Civic Action program in which many Montagnard villages were visited and emergency dental treatment and instructions in oral hygiene were given. Further, the existing dental treatment facility at the Province Hospital in Pleiku was improved, thereby enabling the treatment on a twice-weekly basis of many Vietnamese citizens. Through their technical expertise and sincere interest in the welfare of the local populace, the detachment's members have gained the goodwill and friendship of the Vietnamese people. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 39TH MEDICAL DETACHMENT (DENTAL SERVICE) are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States.

9. THE 39TH SIGNAL BATTALION and its assigned units:

Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 39th Signal Battalion
 Company C/36th, 39th Signal Battalion
 Company D, 41st, 39th Signal Battalion
 Company C/44th, 39th Signal Battalion
 267th Signal Company (for period 1 July 1966 to 15 February 1967)
 518th Signal Company (for period 1 July 1966 to 10 August 1967)
 588th Signal Company (for period 1 April 1967 to 30 September 1967)

For exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service: The 39TH SIGNAL BATTALION (SUPPORT) and its assigned units distinguished themselves in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 July 1966 to 30 September 1967. The members of the 39TH SIGNAL BATTALION (SUPPORT) demonstrated technical expertise, versatility and determination in providing excellent communications support to United States and free world military forces throughout the III and IV Corps tactical zones. They worked tirelessly to build, expand and improve the overall signal system, thereby significantly enhancing the effectiveness of the service rendered to subscribers throughout their area of responsibility. Through their initiative, resourcefulness and total dedication to mission accomplishment, the battalion's members materially advanced the struggle against Communist aggression in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 39TH SIGNAL BATTALION are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States.

10. THE 41ST CIVIL AFFAIRS COMPANY.

For exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service: The 41ST CIVIL AFFAIRS COMPANY distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 January 1967 to 31 December 1967. Throughout this time span, the company's personnel worked tirelessly to instill in the Vietnamese people greater confidence in themselves and in their government, thereby making them less dependent on United States support. They initiated many projects which emphasized self-help and significantly enhanced the living standards of the people. Under the

astute guidance of the men of the 41ST CIVIL AFFAIRS COMPANY, numerous transportation routes were opened; educational facilities were improved; extensive agricultural programs were implemented; and public utilities were expanded. Further, the company's members conducted a vigorous medical civic action program which was instrumental in preventing the outbreak and spread of communicable diseases. As a result of their encouragement, increased participation was evident throughout the II Corps tactical zone as Vietnamese medics took over dispensaries previously operated by Americans and hamlets took more pride in their schools, undertaking repairs on their own. Through their initiative, determination and resourcefulness, the men of the company materially advanced the struggle against Communist aggression in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 41ST CIVIL AFFAIRS COMPANY are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States.

11. THE 54TH SIGNAL BATTALION and its attached units:

209th Signal Detachment
167th Signal Company

For exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service: The 54TH SIGNAL BATTALION (CORPS) and its attached units distinguished themselves in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 May 1967 to 31 January 1968. The members of the battalion demonstrated technical expertise and determination in providing unparalleled communications support for Headquarters, I Field Force Vietnam and multi-national forces operating in the II Corps tactical zone. Throughout the cited period, they furnished the signal support which was vital to the success of Operations BYRD, PERSHING I, GREELEY, BOLLING, MAC ARTHUR, KLAMATH FALLS and McLAIN. Despite the difficulties inherent in the unconventional warfare environment, the men of the 54TH SIGNAL BATTALION (CORPS) maintained maximum utilization of all available equipment and personnel, thereby ensuring that the needs of the fluid tactical situation were met. In addition to accomplishing the technical mission in a superb manner, they conducted a vigorous Civic Action program which not only aided the local populace, but also gained the support of the Vietnamese in the struggle against communist aggression in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 54TH SIGNAL BATTALION (CORPS) are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States.

**12. THE HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT
55TH MEDICAL GROUP.**

For exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service: The HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT, 55TH MEDICAL GROUP distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 July 1966 to 10 March 1968. Employing their astute organizational abilities and administrative acumen, the members of the detachment assured the provision of excellent hospitalization, evacuation and area medical support to United States

Army, Vietnam and allied forces throughout the I and II Corps tactical zones. They demonstrated keen foresight and meticulous attention to detail in planning and supervising the medical support activities for numerous combat operations. During the battle for Dak To, the men of the HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT, 55TH MEDICAL GROUP effectively coordinated the evacuation and treatment of casualties, and their efforts resulted in the efficient handling of more than one thousand injured personnel by the group's hospitals. Cognizant of the importance of Civic Action programs to the ultimate success of the military mission, they established policies and procedures which have transformed the previously decentralized, haphazard medical Civic Action program into a centralized, group-wide, highly productive endeavor, thereby gaining the support of the Vietnamese people for the United States effort. Through their calm professionalism during critical periods and optimum utilization of all available resources and perseverance, the detachment's members contributed immeasurably to the medical support of the combat soldier in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT, 55TH MEDICAL GROUP are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States.

13. THE 95TH MILITARY POLICE BATTALION assigned and attached units:

Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 95th Military Police Battalion
 Company D, 52d Infantry (for period 9 February 1967 to 31 December 1967)
 Company D, 87th Infantry
 557th Military Police Company
 560th Military Police Company
 91st Military Police Detachment
 179th Military Police Detachment (for period 3 January 1967 to 31 December 1967)

For exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service: The 95TH MILITARY POLICE BATTALION and its assigned and attached units distinguished themselves in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 January 1967 to 31 December 1967. The members of the 95TH MILITARY POLICE BATTALION worked tirelessly to construct their base camp in a relatively insecure area, while simultaneously providing security for Long Binh Post and the Long Binh Ammunition Depot. Further, they were highly successful in establishing law and order; ensuring ship, road and convoy security; and operating prisoner of war collection and detention facilities throughout three of the four corps tactical zones. Through their versatility, perseverance and total dedication to mission accomplishment, the Battalion's members materially advanced the effort of the free world military forces in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 95TH MILITARY POLICE BATTALION are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States.

14. THE 96TH SUPPLY AND SERVICE BATTALION assigned and attached units:

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 96th Supply and Service Battalion *(Awarded GO 60, 69)*
 273d Engineer Detachment (for period 31 July 1966 to 1 June 1967)
 539th Supply Company (for period 28 September 1966 to 1 June 1967)
 567th Engineer Detachment *(Awarded GO 60, 69)*
 575th Supply Company (for period 29 September 1966 to 1 June 1967)
 548th General Supply Company (for period 2 November 1966 to 1 June 1967)
 855th Signal Detachment (for period 2 November 1966 to 1 June 1967)
 855th General Supply Company (for period 2 November 1966 to 1 June 1967)
 31st Supply Company (for period 20 July 1966 to 1 June 1967)
 53d Supply Company (for period 20 July 1966 to 1 June 1967)
 59th Field Service Company *(Awarded GO 60, 69)*
 74th Supply Company *(Awarded GO 60, 69)*
 221st Supply and Service Company (for period 20 July 1966 to 1 June 1967)
 423d Supply Company (for period 1 October 1966 to 1 June 1967)
 19th Quartermaster Detachment (for period 1 July 1966 to 1 January 1967)
 22d Quartermaster Detachment (for period 1 July 1966 to 1 January 1967)

For exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service: THE 96TH SUPPLY AND SERVICE BATTALION (DIRECT SUPPORT) and its assigned and attached units distinguished themselves in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the stated periods. Responsible for the operation of fifty-two warehouses and thirty-one major outdoor storage areas in the United States Army Depot, Cam Ranh Bay, the men of the 96TH SUPPLY AND SERVICE BATTALION (DIRECT SUPPORT) performed their duties in an exemplary manner and enabled the Depot to become one of the finest in the theater. They initiated a massive program to improve all aspects of the storage mission, and their efforts ensured excellent support for numerous combat operations. Through their technical skills, perseverance and diligence, they contributed immeasurably to the support of the combat soldier in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 96TH SUPPLY AND SERVICE BATTALION (DIRECT SUPPORT) are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States.

15. THE 213TH ASSAULT SUPPORT HELICOPTER COMPANY and attached unit:

329th Transportation Detachment

For exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service: The 213TH ASSAULT SUPPORT HELICOPTER COMPANY and attached unit distinguished themselves in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 13 February 1967 to 15 October 1967.

Throughout this time span, the company provided the 1st Infantry Division, 173d Airborne Brigade and 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment with the outstanding aviation support that was vital to the success of Operations JUNCTION CITY, DALLAS, MANHATTAN, BILLINGS and SHENANDOAH II. During these operations, the 213TH ASSAULT SUPPORT HELICOPTER COMPANY logged more than nine thousand flying hours, hauled in excess of fifty-two thousand tons of cargo, transported over eighty thousand troops and recovered nearly two hundred aircraft. Despite the extremely hazardous flying conditions, the members of the unit had no aircraft accidents or incidents throughout the cited period. Further, they maintained an average aircraft availability rate of eighty-one percent which was more than twenty percent higher than the standard set by the Army. Cognizant of the importance of Civic Action programs to the ultimate success of the United States mission, the men distributed numerous tons of food and clothing to the needy, thereby increasing the understanding between the local populace and the American forces and gaining the support of the Vietnamese for the military effort. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 213TH ASSAULT HELICOPTER COMPANY are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States.

16. THE 264TH TRANSPORTATION COMPANY (TERMINAL SERVICE).

For exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service: The 264TH TRANSPORTATION COMPANY (TERMINAL SERVICE) distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 15 September 1966 to 30 June 1967. During this time span, the unit demonstrated versatility and determination in providing high quality, off-the-shore logistical support to United States and other free world forces. Significant among its many accomplishments was the completion of the first transfer of ammunition from a deep draft vessel onto landing ships, an achievement which greatly reduced the transfer time of essential munitions to Air Force units at Phan Rang. The men of the 264TH TRANSPORTATION COMPANY (TERMINAL SERVICE) often deployed on short notice to operate on hostile beachheads at various locations throughout the theater in support of elements of the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) and the 1st Brigade of the 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile). Throughout the cited period, they participated in every facet of terminal operation possible for a unit of this type, established record performances in deep draft operations, and consistently exceeded their Table of Organization and Equipment capability with less than authorized equipment and personnel. Through their initiative, resourcefulness and flexibility, the company's men materially advanced the United States effort in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 264TH TRANSPORTATION COMPANY (TERMINAL SERVICE) are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States.

17. THE 442D TRANSPORTATION COMPANY (MEDIUM TRUCK).

For exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service: The 442D TRANSPORTATION COMPANY (MEDIUM TRUCK) distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 23 December 1966 to 30 December 1967. The company's members worked long and arduous hours in fulfilling their mission of providing cargo transport support to active combat forces in an exemplary manner. During Operation SUMMERALL, they moved more than three thousand short tons of badly needed combat material and almost three thousand gallons of petroleum products, thereby contributing immeasurably to the success of the operation. Further, the men of the 442D TRANSPORTATION COMPANY (MEDIUM TRUCK) furnished elements of the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) and the 173d Airborne Brigade with supplies required to defeat the communist aggressors during Operations GREELY and FRANCIS MARION. They established a number of firsts in the vital area of line haul activities including running the first American convoys to Da Lat, Bao Loc and Qui Nhon and participating in the longest convoy ever to take place in the theater, from Phan Rang to Pleiku, a distance of more than six hundred miles. Through their enthusiasm, determination and total dedication to mission accomplishment, the company's personnel materially advanced the United States military effort in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 442D TRANSPORTATION COMPANY (MEDIUM TRUCK) are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States.

18. THE 545TH MILITARY POLICE COMPANY. *Amended GO 2, 1971*

For exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service: The 545TH MILITARY POLICE COMPANY distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 12 February 1967 to 1 January 1968. The members of the company demonstrated unrelenting determination and resourcefulness in providing outstanding combat military police support to the tactical elements of the 1st Air Cavalry Division. During Operation PERSHING the men played a key role in the implementation of populace and resources control operations which were highly successful maneuvers that employed the South Vietnamese National Police Field Forces in ferreting out and destroying the Viet Cong infrastructure in Binh Dinh Province. In addition to developing and adapting the joint police operations concept, the 545TH MILITARY POLICE COMPANY performed all intrinsic military police functions, such as the prevention and investigation of crime and the maintenance of discipline, law and order, in an outstanding manner. Further, they worked tirelessly to quickly process Vietnamese detainees and identify innocent civilians, thereby reducing the adverse effects that military operations inflict upon the civilian populace. Through their initiative and adaptability to the fluid tactical situation, the company's members contributed immeasurably to the United States mission in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 545TH MILITARY POLICE COMPANY are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States.

GO 54

19. THE 563D SUPPLY AND SERVICE BATTALION (DIRECT SUPPORT) and assigned units:

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 563d Supply and Service Battalion
248th Supply Company (Repair Parts)
540th Supply Company (Heavy Materiel)
578th Supply Company (Heavy Materiel)

For exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service: The 563D SUPPLY AND SERVICE BATTALION (DIRECT SUPPORT), and assigned units distinguished themselves in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 2 May 1967 to 31 December 1967. Upon arrival in the theater, the battalion immediately assumed its mission of providing logistical support to combat units in an efficient and professional manner. Applying their technical expertise and extensive experience, the members of the 563D SUPPLY AND SERVICE BATTALION (DIRECT SUPPORT) received and processed more than 4,400 vehicles and other major items of equipment; greatly improved their physical storage sites; and instituted more effective warehousing practices and issuing procedures, thereby furnishing better service to combat units. They were instrumental in the opening of new storage facilities which significantly enhanced their logistical support capabilities. Through their versatility, initiative and determination, the battalion's members contributed immeasurably to the support of the combat soldier in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 563D SUPPLY AND SERVICE BATTALION (DIRECT SUPPORT) are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States.

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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