

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 48HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, D.C., 13 September 1968

VALOROUS UNIT CITATION—Awards—	Section	I
MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION—Awards—		II

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 periods indicated:

The citations read as follows:

1. The Valorous Unit Award is awarded by direction of the Secretary of the Army to:

COMPANY B, 15TH MEDICAL BATTALION

COMPANY B, 15TH MEDICAL BATTALION distinguished itself by extraordinary heroism while engaged in military operations on 6 June 1967 in support of the 1st Air Cavalry Division during Operation PERSHING on the Bon Son Plains. An enemy mortar attack in the early morning hours detonated the ammunition storage area containing 1,250 tons of assorted shells, rockets, grenades and incendiaries. On-duty personnel immediately responded to the initial explosion and aroused the sleeping patients and off-duty personnel of the company. This prompt, courageous action undoubtedly saved the lives of men who would not otherwise have survived the massive explosions and fires that followed. With the explosion of the entire ammunition dump imminent, and in the midst of exploding shells, fire and debris, the men of COMPANY B, 15TH MEDICAL BATTALION unhesitatingly left the safety of their bunkers to evacuate patients and unit personnel. The volume of fire and falling debris forced the evacuation parties across an open airstrip. Medics who had made their way to an area of relative safety volunteered to go back into the exploding holocaust to aid the injured, and wounded medics were pulled by their companions from collapsed bunkers and carried to cover. Personnel from the company who had reached safety returned to the company area when rounds were exploding to evacuate those who were wounded or trapped. After a treatment facility and casualty collecting point had been established, the unit's personnel shuttled casualties from the collecting point to a medical aid station. Twelve medics augmented the medical personnel of the treatment station to aid in the sorting, treatment and evacuation of casualties. The teamwork and selfless actions demonstrated by these men throughout the attack were instrumental in saving numerous lives. All patients and personnel were safely evacuated from the company area with no loss of life. The men of COMPANY B, 15TH MEDICAL BATTALION 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.

GO 48

service and reflect distinct credit upon themselves and the Army of the Republic of Vietnam.

9. The Valorous Unit Award is awarded by direction of the Secretary of the Army to:

THE 703D REGIONAL FORCE COMPANY, ARMY OF THE
REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

The 703D REGIONAL FORCE COMPANY, ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM distinguished itself by extraordinary heroism while engaged in defensive military operations on 9 September 1967. During the early morning hours of 9 September while occupying its defensive positions protecting the Ba Ren Bridge on Highway 1, the unit was savagely attacked by a Viet Cong element of undetermined size. Beginning with a massive mortar barrage, the insurgents followed with a ground assault during which they penetrated the company's defensive perimeter adjacent to the bridge. Despite the proximity of the savage enemy onslaught, the 703D REGIONAL FORCE COMPANY gallantly held its ground throughout the two and one-half hour battle and inflicted numerous casualties, forcing the enemy to leave behind its dead in fleeing the devastating fire. Because of the unit's courageous and unrelenting efforts against a numerically superior force, the Ba Ren Bridge has remained under friendly control with the enemy sustaining catastrophic losses in attempting to capture it. The men of the 703D REGIONAL FORCE COMPANY 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 Army of the Republic of Vietnam.

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 1ST MEDICAL BATTALION.

For exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service: The 1ST MEDICAL BATTALION distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 April 1967 to 30 September 1967. Supporting ten locations simultaneously, the battalion continuously demonstrated its ability to respond quickly and efficiently to all situations and its capability to provide outstanding medical support on short notice. Among its noteworthy accomplishments were the outstanding contributions made in support of the highly effective revolutionary development program conducted by the 1st Infantry Division. The medical and dental support provided by the 1ST MEDICAL BATTALION materially improved the pacification program and were contributing factors in furthering the Chieu Hoi Program. During Operation MANHATTAN, 8,225 pounds of medical supplies were shipped in support of the 1st Infantry Division and its attached units. Considering that this was accomplished entirely by an abbreviated radio supply request and aerial resupply, the magnitude of the performance takes on even greater significance. The battalion's ability to react on all operations provided the highest level of continual medical support and, as a result, the

9. THE 9TH SIGNAL BATTALION and assigned units:

- Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 9th Signal Battalion
- Company A, 9th Signal Battalion (for period 10 January 1967 to 18 December 1967)
- Company B, 9th Signal Battalion (for period 10 January 1967 to 18 December 1967)
- Company C, 9th Signal Battalion

For exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service: The 9TH SIGNAL BATTALION and assigned units distinguished themselves in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 19 December 1966 to 18 December 1967. Since its arrival in-country, the battalion has functioned as a veteran unit in successfully accomplishing its mission of providing tactical signal support to the various assigned and attached units of the 9th Infantry Division and other allied forces. Always striving to provide the finest in communications support, the battalion made maximum use of its equipment and initiated new procedures whenever and wherever necessary. Encountering new and unique problems with every turn of the constantly changing tactical situation, the officers and men of the 9TH SIGNAL BATTALION displayed ingenuity in providing all supported units with communications systems which were efficient and reliable. Through indomitable courage and intense dedication, the men of the battalion furnished field commanders with the communication facilities necessary to provide effective command and control for operations throughout the Viet Cong infested Mekong Delta. In developing a highly flexible communications network for the Mobile Riverine Force and its floating artillery batteries, the battalion proved that it was second to none in the sound application of principles of leadership and technical knowledge. The battalion pioneered the way in the field of communications and helped make possible the most mobile and effectively controlled fighting force in the world. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 9TH 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 12TH AVIATION GROUP and its assigned and attached units:

- Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 12th Aviation Group
- Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 11th Aviation Battalion

Deleted 1967
12/1/1967

19th Aviation Company (Airmobile)

1st Signal Detachment

4th Signal Detachment

21st Aviation Company (14 Dec 67 - 30 Nov 67) DA 60 65, 1969

25th Medical Detachment

26th Signal Detachment

54th Aviation Company

68th Aviation Company

73d Aviation Company

74th Aviation Company

85th Medical Detachment

87th Quartermaster Detachment

116th Aviation Company

118th Aviation Company

145th Security Detachment

540th Aviation Co (25th May 1967)

5531 Dec 67

147th Aviation Company
 162d Aviation Company
 166th Transportation Detachment (5 May - 31 Dec 67) DA 60 79
 171st Transportation Detachment
 173d Aviation Company
~~184th Signal Detachment~~ 184th Aviation Co (DA 62 1971)
 187th Aviation Company
 188th Aviation Company
 191st Aviation Company
 198th Signal Detachment
 200th Aviation Company
 205th Aviation Company
~~212th Aviation Company~~ deleted, DA 60 66, 1968
 214th Aviation Battalion, Headquarters and Headquarters Company
 222d Aviation Battalion, Headquarters and Headquarters Company
 234th Signal Detachment
 243d Signal Detachment
 255th Transportation Detachment
 269th Aviation Battalion, Headquarters and Headquarters Company
 282d Signal Detachment
 283d Signal Detachment
 285th Signal Detachment
 320th Signal Detachment
~~329th Transportation Detachment~~ deleted, DA 60 66, 1968
 334th Aviation Company
 335th Aviation Company (1 Feb 67 - 31 Dec 7) DA 60 70, 1969
 338th Aviation Detachment
 340th Aviation Detachment
 341st Aviation Detachment
 390th Quartermaster Detachment
 391st Transportation Detachment
 392d Transportation Detachment
 393d Transportation Detachment
 407th Transportation Detachment
 408th Transportation Detachment
 430th Medical Detachment
 431st Medical Detachment
 432d Medical Detachment
 450th Signal Detachment
 451st Signal Detachment
 463d Transportation Detachment
~~478th Heavy Helicopter Company, 2d Platoon~~ 2d Platoon, 478 Avn Co
 571st Transportation Detachment
 573d Transportation Detachment
 602d Transportation Detachment
 603d Transportation Detachment
 606th Transportation Detachment
 611th Transportation Detachment
 612th Transportation Detachment
 619th Transportation Detachment