

GENERAL ORDERS
No. 48

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 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.

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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
- ✓ 12th Aviation Company (Airmobile)
- ✓ 1st Signal Detachment
- ✓ 4th Signal Detachment
- ✓ 21st Aviation Company (19 Jan 67 - 30 Nov 67) DAGO 69 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 ~~128th Inf~~ 1969
- ✓ 118th Aviation Company
- ✓ 145th Security Detachment

- ✓ 147th Aviation Company
- ✓ 162d Aviation Company
- ✓ 166th Transportation Detachment (5 May - 31 Dec 67) DAGO 179
- ✓ 171st Transportation Detachment
- ✓ 173d Aviation Company
- ✓ 184th Signal Detachment 184th Aviation Co (DAGO 2, 1971)
- ✓ 187th Aviation Company
- ✓ 188th Aviation Company
- ✓ 191st Aviation Company
- ✓ 198th Signal Detachment
- ✓ 200th Aviation Company
- ✓ 205th Aviation Company
- ✓ 213th Aviation Company deleted, DAGO 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, DAGO 65, 1968
- ✓ 334th Aviation Company
- ✓ 335th Aviation Company (1 Feb 67 - 31 Dec 7) DAGO 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, V78 Gun Co DAGO 5, 1971
- ✓ 571st Transportation Detachment
- ✓ 573d Transportation Detachment
- ✓ 602d Transportation Detachment
- ✓ 603d Transportation Detachment
- ✓ 606th Transportation Detachment
- ✓ 611th Transportation Detachment
- ✓ 612th Transportation Detachment
- ✓ 619th Transportation Detachment

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- ✓ 622d Signal Detachment
- ✓ 758th Medical Detachment
- ✓ 759th Medical Detachment
- ✓ 772d Medical Detachment
- ✓ 932d Signal Detachment

For exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service: THE 12TH AVIATION GROUP 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. Since its inception in 1965, the group's six combat aviation battalions and one air cavalry squadron set new highs in flying hours (498,899), troops lifted (2,066,294) and tons of cargo carried (282,386). In conducting their extremely essential mission, units of the group ranged the length and breadth of the Republic, participating in 105 United States and Free World Military Assistance Forces and 412 Army of the Republic of Vietnam operations. To keep abreast of the demands of an ever changing tactical situation, the 12TH AVIATION GROUP tested new equipment and integrated feasible concepts into its inventory, thus refining the tactics and techniques of airmobile operations. By initiating a survival/escape and evasion program, the group provided aircrews with training essential to surviving in a hostile environment. The overall superb aviation support rendered by this unit has significantly enhanced counterinsurgency aims in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 12TH AVIATION 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.

**A1. THE 6TH BATTALION, 14TH ARTILLERY and attached unit:
 Battery A, 3d Battalion, 18th Artillery**

For exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service: The 6TH BATTALION, 14TH ARTILLERY and attached unit distinguished themselves in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 27 November 1965 to 10 November 1967. The rapid and highly professional manner in which the unit employed its resources and carried out its combat support mission upon arrival in Vietnam was characteristic of the outstanding enthusiasm and initiative consistently displayed throughout this period. Supporting fifteen major operations, the battalion fired in excess of 10,000 tons of explosives from its guns, killing 348 insurgents and destroying hundreds of enemy bunkers, emplacements and weapons. Often under hostile fire, the men of the 6TH BATTALION, 14TH ARTILLERY displayed outstanding spirit and pride of mission accomplishment that enabled them to overcome operational obstacles and deliver maximum artillery support to ground forces. The determination, courage and fortitude demonstrated by members of the battalion in carrying out their combat missions contributed immeasurably to the counterinsurgency efforts of the Free World Forces in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 6TH BATTALION, 14TH ARTILLERY 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.

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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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