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GENERAL ORDERS

No. 17

HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, D.C., 23 April 1968

II – MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION. By direction of the Secretary of the Army, under the provisions of paragraph 203, AR672-5-1, the Meritorious Unit Commendation is awarded to the following named unit of the United States Army for exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service during the periods indicated:

The citation reads as follows:

29. THE 12TH EVACUATION HOSPITAL.

For exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service: The 12TH EVACUATION HOSPITAL (SMBL) distinguished itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 19 September 1966 to 1 July 1967. Despite extreme shortages of supplies, lack of construction assistance, adverse weather conditions and continued enemy harassment, the unit provided unmatched medical support for the 25th Infantry Division. Assisted by an engineer unit, they initiated a continuing program of self-help construction, building living quarters, a one hundred and fifty-bed treatment center and protective bunkers. The members of the 12TH EVACUATION HOSPITAL (SMBL) supported five major tactical operations, treating casualties with maximum speed and efficiency. In addition to many other tasks, they assumed the responsibility for handling in-patient treatment and a major portion of the medical civic action program for the division, which included the maintenance of a Vietnamese ward, organization and operation of a dispensary in Cu Chi and a preventive dentistry program. The high degree of unselfish dedication demonstrated by the unit's members has greatly contributed to the welfare of American, Vietnamese, and other free world forces personnel and to the counterinsurgency efforts in the Republic of Vietnam. The remarkable proficiency and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 12TH EVACUATION HOSPITAL (SMBL) were 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:

HAROLD K. JOHNSON,
General, United States Army
Chief of Staff.

Official:

KENNETH G. WICKHAM,
Major General, United States Army.
The Adjutant General.