

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY VIETNAM  
APO San Francisco 96375

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 4168

2 September 1968

AWARD OF THE VALOROUS UNIT AWARD

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

Awarded: Valorous Unit Award

Effective month: N/A

Date action: 11 March 1967

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: The 2D BATTALION, 5TH UNITED STATES CAVALRY and its attached units: the 3d Liaison Section, 1st Battalion, 77th Artillery; the Forward Observer Section, A Battery, 1st Battalion, 77th Artillery; the 3d Platoon, Company B, 8th Engineer Battalion; the 228th Pathfinder Team, Pathfinder Platoon, 11th Aviation Group; the 1st, 2d, 3d and 4th Scout Dog Teams, 34th Infantry Platoon (Scout Dog); the 1st Scout Dog Team, 40th Infantry Platoon (Scout Dog); and the Air Crew, Aircraft Number 65-12861, Aviation Platoon, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2d Brigade 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 fire-fight 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 aerial delivered flares, medical assistance was guided in during the night and the wounded were evacuated. When day-break 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 noneffectiveness. 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.

GENERAL ORDERS NUMBER 4168, dated 2 September 1968, DA, HEADQUARTERS,  
UNITED STATES ARMY VIETNAM, APO San Francisco 96375 (Cont)

Authority: By direction of the Secretary of the Army under the provisions of paragraph 202.1g(2), AR 672-5-1.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



FRANK H. LINNELL  
Brigadier General, US Army  
Acting Chief of Staff

CARL V. CASH  
Colonel, AGC  
Adjutant General

DISTRIBUTION:

5-Each unit concerned  
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**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**

**THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT**

**THE**

**VALOROUS UNIT AWARD**

**HAS BEEN AWARDED TO THE**

2D BATTALION, 5TH UNITED STATES CAVALRY

**FOR**

**EXTRAORDINARY HEROISM IN MILITARY**

**OPERATIONS AGAINST AN ARMED ENEMY.**

In the Republic of Vietnam - 11 March 1967

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND IN THE CITY OF WASHINGTON**

**THIS** 2d **DAY OF** September **1968**