

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION (AIRMOBILE)
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL
APO San Francisco 96490

AVDACC

6 July 1970

SUBJECT: The FIRST TEAM in Cambodia

TO: The SKYTROOPERS of the 1st Air Cavalry Division

1. As you know, the 1st Air Cavalry Division has been involved in operations against enemy sanctuaries in Cambodia for the past two months.
2. The results of these operations have far exceeded expectations. It has been the most successful operation in the history of the 1st Air Cavalry Division.
3. All members of the FIRST TEAM have done their part. Each one of you, doing his own job each day to the best of his ability, has contributed to the team effort - the maintenance men who kept our helicopters flying and the aviators who so gallantly flew them for more hours than they have ever flown before; the engineers who carried the massive construction load; the support personnel who worked so long and hard to keep supplies flowing to our extended front; the signalmen who accomplished near impossible feats of communication; the artillerymen who rained tons of steel on the enemy every day; the aerial scouts who sought out the enemy wherever he might try to hide; and - most of all - the infantrymen who grappled with a tenacious enemy and searched out his hidden caches. All of you together made this success possible and deserve the accolade of the FIRST TEAM.
4. The results are impressive. (You killed enough of the enemy to man three NVA Regiments; captured or destroyed enough individual and crew-served weapons to equip two NVA Divisions; and denied the enemy an entire year's supply of rice for all of his maneuver battalions in our AO. You captured more rocket, mortar, and recoilless rifle rounds than the enemy fired in all of III Corps during the twelve months preceding our move into Cambodia. And, perhaps most important, by working together in an airmobile team, you disrupted the enemy's entire supply system, making chaos of his base areas and killing or driving off his rear service personnel.)
5. Only time will tell how long it will take the NVA to recover, but of this you can be sure - you have set the enemy back sufficiently to permit President Nixon's redeployment plan to proceed with safety while assuring that our Vietnamese Allies maintain their freedom. This is your achievement. This is yet another demonstration that you of the 1st Air Cavalry Division deserve - and have earned again - the accolade of the FIRST TEAM. It is my honor to have served alongside you during this crucial and historic period.

AVDACG

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6. Congratulations and best wishes to each of you!

s/George W. Casey
t/GEORGE W. CASEY
Major General, USA
Commanding

"A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY"

Justin C. Cash
JUSTIN C. CASH
MAJOR, ARMOR
Adjutant