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I. PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION (ARMY). 1. Award of the Presidential Unit Citation (Army) by The President of the United States of America to the following unit of the Armed Forces of the United States is confirmed in accordance with paragraph 194, AR 672-5-1. The text of the citation, signed by President Lyndon B. Johnson on 8 March 1967, reads as follows:

By virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the United States and as Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces of the United States I have today awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for extraordinary heroism to: **THE 2D BATTALION (AIRBORNE), 502D INFANTRY, 1ST BRIGADE, 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION**

The 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division distinguished itself by extraordinary heroism in action against hostile forces in the Republic of Vietnam on 18 and 19 September 1965 during operation "Gibraltar." On 18 September the 2d Battalion was ordered to conduct a heliborne assault and make contact with and destroy a Viet Cong battalion which was operating in the mountains east of the village of An Khe. Upon landing, the initial heliborne lift was subjected to enemy small arms and automatic weapons fire. Unhesitatingly, the men of Company "C" assembled and moved quickly to secure the landing zone and to await the arrival of subsequent lifts. As the second and third lifts reached the airhead, the enemy directed a heavy volume of small arms, automatic weapons and artillery fire onto the landing zone. During the initial phase of the battle, the enemy fire killed the battalion's operations officer and one of the company commanders, wounded the two other rifle company commanders, and hit over half of the helicopters. Small unit leaders seized the initiative, organized fighting elements, and aggressively attacked enemy automatic weapons and mortar positions in order to enlarge the airhead. During the initial hours, isolated elements fought off frequent attacks by numerically superior enemy forces. Small unit leaders repeatedly directed air strikes within 50 meters of their own positions. The battalion continued to defend its positions throughout the remainder of the day and into the night, repulsing at least 9 enemy attacks. The following morning a link-up was accomplished with another ground element that had been airlifted into the area. Despite the loss of key leaders, the battalion's personnel manifested initiative, determination and the will to survive during the entire action. In every critical situation, an individual emerged to assume responsibility and to inspire continued effective conduct of the operation. Moreover, although facing a numerically superior, well-trained and well-organized enemy, the U.S. forces registered a resounding victory and rendered ineffective two main force Viet Cong battalions. Confirmed enemy losses included 257 personnel killed and 5 captured. The gallantry, determination and esprit de corps of the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry in close combat against numeri-

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cally superior enemy forces is in keeping with the highest traditions of the U.S. Army and reflects great credit upon the Unit and the Armed Forces of the United States.

2. Award of the Presidential Unit Citation (Army) by the President of the United States of America to the following units of the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces is confirmed in accordance with paragraph 194, AR 672-5-1. The text of the citations as announced by President Lyndon B. Johnson on 15 November 1966 read as follows:

By virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the United States and as Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces of the United States, I have today awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for extraordinary heroism to:

THE 37TH RANGER BATTALION, ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF
VIETNAM AND ATTACHED UNITS

934TH REGIONAL FORCE COMPANY, QUANG NGAI PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

AND

2D PLATOON, BATTERY "B," 21ST ARTILLERY BATTALION,
2D INFANTRY
DIVISION ARTILLERY, ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

The 37TH RANGER BATTALION and attached units distinguished themselves by extraordinary heroism in action against hostile forces in the Republic of Vietnam on 22 November 1965. While the 37TH RANGER BATTALION and attached units were occupying a 2d Infantry Division outpost in the vicinity of Thach Tru, Quang Ngai Province, a Viet Cong force, estimated to be a reinforced regular regiment, supported by 75mm recoilless rifles and 81mm mortars, launched a predawn multi-pronged attack against the friendly positions. Although greatly outnumbered, the 37TH RANGER BATTALION and attached units, in an extraordinary display of gallantry, determination, and esprit de corps, were successful in driving back three communist human wave onslaughts. After suffering staggering casualties and heavy losses of weapons and equipment, the Viet Cong were forced to withdraw from the battlefield and abandon their operation. The devotion to duty, perseverance, and extraordinary heroism demonstrated by the members of the 37TH RANGER BATTALION and attached units in defending their homeland are in the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon themselves and the Republic of Vietnam.

By virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the United States and as Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces of the United States I have today awarded The Presidential Unit Citation for extraordinary heroism to:

THE 52D RANGER BATTALION, ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF
VIETNAM
AND ATTACHED UNITS
THE 701ST REGIONAL FORCE COMPANY
THE 361ST MECHANIZED PLATOON, REGIONAL FORCES

The 52d Ranger Battalion and the above attached units, ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM, distinguished themselves by extraordinary heroism in action against hostile forces in the vicinity of Phu Hai, Phuoc Tuy Province, Republic of Vietnam on 11 November 1965. After providing relief for an outpost that had been under attack, the Rangers were returning to their home station and engaged in a road clearing operation when information was received that a large force of Vietcong planned an ambush along the return route. Without hesitation, the Rangers deployed to advantageous positions and used sound counter-ambush techniques. When contact was made with the numerically superior force, the friendly troops launched an assault on the Vietcong which drove them toward the northeast. Having regrouped, the Rangers again assaulted the Vietcong positions just as hostile reinforcements began moving toward them from the north. In close, fierce fighting, the Rangers forced the insurgents from their positions in the northeast into the path of their reinforcements approaching from the north, causing both the advancing and retreating hostile elements to be caught in the open and become the target of accurate air strikes. Then as an insurgent unit, moving to the west, attacked a small force of Rangers left to guard vehicles near Kim Hai, a Ranger company quickly moved back to the ambush site, drove off the Vietcong, and retrieved all but three of their vehicles. The determination, devotion to duty, indomitable courage, and extraordinary heroism demonstrated by the members of the 52D RANGER BATTALION and its attached units in defending their homeland are in the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon themselves and the Republic of Vietnam.

II. VALOROUS UNIT AWARD. 1. 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 units of the United States Army for extraordinary heroism while engaged in military operations during the periods indicated:

The citations read as follows:

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

THE 2D BATTALION, 2D INFANTRY TASK FORCE, 1ST INFANTRY
DIVISION
COMPRISED OF
HEADQUARTERS AND COMMAND GROUP, 2D BATTALION,
2D INFANTRY
COMPANY A, 2D BATTALION, 2D INFANTRY
TROOP A, 1ST SQUADRON, 4TH CAVALRY
C BATTERY, 2D BATTALION, 33D ARTILLERY

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FORWARD OBSERVER SECTION #1, A BATTERY, 2D BATTALION,
33D ARTILLERY
TACTICAL AIR CONTROL PARTY (UNITED STATES AIR FORCE)

for extraordinary heroism:

The 2d Battalion, 2d Infantry Task Force, 1st Infantry Division is cited for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force near Ap Bau Bang, Binh Duong Province, Republic of Vietnam, on 12 November 1965. The 2d Battalion, 2d Infantry Task Force was assigned the hazardous and difficult mission of clearing and securing National Highway 13 for the passage of elements of the 5th Division, Army of the Republic of Vietnam. At 0605 hours, the Task Force was attacked by a numerically superior hostile force estimated to be two main force Viet Cong regiments. The Viet Cong delivered withering and accurate mortar, automatic weapons, and recoilless rifle fire on the men of the Task Force. This intense fire was accompanied by a series of hostile "human-wave" frontal attacks against the Task Force perimeter defensive positions. Initial attacks came from the south and southwest, where in the first thirty minutes of the battle, over one hundred and fifty rounds of mortar and recoilless rifle fire were absorbed by the courageous defenders. With indomitable courage, each man of the Task Force fought tenaciously as a team and destroyed each insurgent attack. On occasions when the inner perimeter was breached, it was the raw courage of the defenders that carried the day. Reinforcing the deadly fires of the infantry, the artillery employed their howitzers in direct fire against the Viet Cong while the cavalry maneuvered their armored personnel carriers to employ their .50 caliber machineguns at point blank range into the ranks of the insurgents. Five air strikes controlled by the Forward Air Control Party relentlessly punished the Viet Cong. With perfect team work, three fierce hostile attacks were beaten off, imposing heavy casualties upon the north. The attack was slowed and then stopped under the onslaught of an overpowering hail of infantry, cavalry and artillery firepower. By 1100 hours, the Task Force had sustained the majority of its 100 casualties and had almost exhausted its ammunition. Undaunted, the members of the Task Force drove off the superior hostile force with heavy losses and immediately began a pursuit of the fleeing Viet Cong. Continuing their mission, they quickly evacuated the dead and wounded and proceeded to clear National Highway 13 for the passage of the friendly forces. The gallant stand of the 2d Infantry Task Force resulted in the death of 198 Viet Cong, the capture of 6, and the wounding of an estimated 500. In addition, a vast quantity of equipment, weapons, and documents were captured. A numerically superior hostile force had been held at bay for six hours and subsequently driven from the field of battle with heavy losses. Highway 13 was cleared and the Republic of Vietnam forces passed through the zone without incident or casualties. The conspicuous gallantry and extraordinary heroism of the 2d Battalion, 2d Infantry Task Force are in keeping with the finest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon all members of the units who participated in this heroic combat action.

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

THE 2D BRIGADE TASK FORCE, 25TH INFANTRY DIVISION
UNITED STATES ARMY

COMPRISED OF

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2d Brigade, 25th Infantry Division
 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry
 2d Battalion, 27th Infantry
 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 5th Infantry
 1st Howitzer Battalion, 8th Artillery (+)
 Company B, 65th Engineer Battalion (+)
 Company C, 65th Engineer Battalion
 A Troop, 3d Squadron, 4th Cavalry
 2d Support Battalion (Provisional)
 2d Headquarters, Supply and Transport Company
 Company D, 25th Medical Battalion
 Company C, 725th Maintenance Battalion
 2d Brigade Personnel Support Team
 25th Military Intelligence Team
 2d Forward Signal Center, B Platoon, Company B, 125th Signal Battalion
 2d Forward Signal Center, B Platoon, Company B, 125 Signal Battalion
 U-6 Section, Company B, 25th Aviation Battalion
 2d Platoon, 25th Military Police Company
 Augmentation Team, Staff Judge Advocate
 Information Office Team
 15th Public Information Detachment
 Civil Affairs Section
 Air Liaison Section

for extraordinary heroism:

The 2d Brigade Task Force, 25th Infantry Division, distinguished itself by extraordinary heroism in ground combat against the Viet Cong in the Republic of Vietnam during the period January through April 1966. Ordered to secure a base of operations for itself and the remainder of the 25th Infantry Division in the vicinity of the town Tan An Hoi in Cu Chi District, Republic of Vietnam, the Brigade Task Force embarked on 66 days of continuous combat operations in a completely Viet Cong dominated, heavily entrenched and fiercely defended area. On 30 January 1966, combat operations began to seize, clear and secure the area selected for a base of operation. For the initial four days, brigade combat elements moved forward against devastating automatic weapons and never-ending harassing sniper fire, well-established mine fields and a vast underground system of tunnels, trenches, spider holes and fortifications unrivaled in Vietnam. Displaying extraordinary heroism and unwaivering determination, task force elements methodically cleared the area of a fanatical enemy force that was manning the fortifications. This entire action was characterized by numerous acts of personal sacrifice and heroism. During the period 30 January to 5 April 1966, the Brigade conducted eleven major operations against the Viet Cong with battalion or larger sized forces engaged in fierce battle against a hostile enemy. On 5 April 1966, after 66 days of continuous combat, the brigade had seized, cleared and secured the base of operation and surrounding area in the vicinity of Cu Chi, Republic of Vietnam. A total of 449 Viet Cong had been killed by body count. Viet Cong activities throughout the Cu Chi District were severely disrupted and the Viet Cong greatly discredited in the eyes of the local populace. During these momentous 66 days, the Brigade

displayed utmost courage and indomitable spirit, and as a unit it demonstrated extraordinary heroism as it unwaveringly and unceasingly pitted itself against hard core, experienced, entrenched and determined enemy forces. The indomitable spirit and extraordinary heroism with which the 2d Brigade Task Force engaged, battled and defeated a fortified and determined enemy during this period of continuous combat operation is in keeping with the finest traditions of the United States Army and reflects great credit upon all members of the Task Force who participated in the Battle for Cu Chi.

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

THE 2D BATTALION, 28TH INFANTRY, 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION
COMPRISED OF
HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 2D
BATTALION, 28TH INFANTRY
COMPANY A, 2D BATTALION, 28TH INFANTRY
COMPANY B, 2D BATTALION, 28TH INFANTRY
COMPANY C, 2D BATTALION, 28TH INFANTRY
3 FORWARD OBSERVER TEAMS, BATTERY C, 33D ARTILLERY
LIAISON TEAMS, HQS SERVICE BATTERY, 33D ARTILLERY
TACTICAL AIR CONTROL PARTY, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

for extraordinary heroism:

The 2d Battalion, 28th Infantry, 1st Infantry Division, and attached units distinguished themselves by extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force at the Lo Ke Rubber Plantation, Binh Duong Province, Republic of Vietnam, on 5 March 1966. On this date, the 2d Battalion, 28th Infantry was accomplishing its mission of blocking a Viet Cong main supply route when it was attacked from four sides by a well-equipped and highly motivated reinforced Viet Cong regiment. At 0615 hours, battalion ambush patrols discovered the vastly superior Viet Cong force moving in to attack the battalion. These patrols alerted the battalion and fought their way back to the perimeter, disrupting the insurgent attack as they did so. At 0630 the reinforced Viet Cong regiment launched four powerful attacks under the cover of intense mortar, small arms, automatic weapons, and .50 caliber machinegun fire. Initial attacks came from the north and northeast and were followed by attacks from the east and southeast. With indomitable courage the men of the battalion repelled all attacks with devastating mortar, machinegun, rifle and grenade fire. Despite the fact that numerous close air support strikes and massive artillery fire was called in on them, the Viet Cong persisted in their suicidal assault on the Battalion position for a period of over six hours. Although they were running low on ammunition, the men of the battalion drove off the Viet Cong regiment and when it withdrew, they pursued and attacked its rear guard inflicting further casualties on the regiment. The gallant stand of the 2d Battalion, 28th Infantry resulted in the death of 450 Viet Cong and the capture of 7, while sustaining only 26 casualties. In addition, a vast quantity of equipment, ammunition and weapons, including four .50 caliber machineguns, were captured. After the battle a large quantity of documents, containers, web equipment, clothing and bloody bandages found in the battle area indicated that a vastly superior hostile force had attacked for over six hours and had departed in a rout. The conspicuous gallantry and extraordinary heroism of the 2d

Battalion, 28th Infantry are in keeping with the finest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon all who participated in this significant battle.

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

THE 285TH REGIONAL FORCE COMPANY

for extraordinary heroism:

THE 285TH REGIONAL FORCE COMPANY, Quang Duc Province, Republic of Vietnam, while stationed at Bu Prang Outpost, distinguished themselves by extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving an opposing force in the Republic of Vietnam, on 28 December 1965. The 285th Regional Force Company displayed exceptional determination in defending their outpost against repeated attacks by a reinforced Viet Cong battalion for a period of six hours. During the initial mortar attack and subsequent assault, the company commander and his assistant were seriously wounded, leaving the understrength company without officer leadership. The noncommissioned officers immediately assumed control of the outpost and directed the actions of the well disciplined unit against the onrushing Viet Cong. Despite the intense enemy mortar, small arms, and recoilless rifle fire, the gallant defenders remained at their positions, fighting against overwhelming odds. When the outer defenses were penetrated, near the Southeast Bunker, the men of the 285th refused to leave their positions, killing the Viet Cong at extremely close range. Although greatly outnumbered and without reinforcements, artillery, or air support, they continued to repel the numerous assaults until the enemy withdrew at dawn, defeated, leaving eighty seven of their dead behind. The 285th Regional Force Company's determination to stay and fight and extraordinary heroic actions are in the highest tradition of the military and reflect great credit on the unit, the Regional Forces, and the Vietnamese Army.

2. 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 unit of the United States Army, The 52d Aviation Battalion, and its assigned and attached units: 119th Airmobile Company; 52d Airlift Platoon; 219th Aviation Company (-), Fixed Wing; 545th Transportation Detachment (CHFM); 94th Medical Detachment; 70th Signal Detachment; 208th Signal Detachment; Company A, 1st Aviation Battalion; 165th Transportation Detachment (CHFM); 8th Medical Detachment; 117th Airmobile Company; 140th Transportation Detachment (CHFM); 165th Medical Detachment; 256th Signal Detachment; 161st Helicopter Marine Squadron; and Company A, 502d Aviation Battalion for extraordinary heroism while engaged in military operations during the period indicated:

The citation reads as follows:

The 52d Aviation Battalion, United States Army, and assigned and attached units, are cited for combat aggressiveness and extraordinary heroism in support of military operations and in the defense of five provinces in central Vietnam, despite hazardous flying weather, intense hostile fire, and crippling combat losses. As a normal part of its operations, the battalion's troop carrier helicopters, armed helicopters, and fixed wing aircraft routinely supplied remote special forces camps, performed numerous medical evacuation missions

under fire, and frequently landed troops in combat assaults at a time when the growing threat of Viet Cong and regular North Vietnamese units imperiled the provinces of Darlac, Khanh Hoa, Phu Yen, Pleiku and Binh Dinh. During the 41 days from 18 September 1965 to 28 October 1965, the battalion was engaged in combat operations on 28 days. On two occasions, it returned to the field of battle despite crippling losses and intense enemy fire, maintaining an outstanding esprit, and leaving the field only on one instance—and then only after having two-thirds of its helicopters disabled by enemy automatic weapons fire in the landing zone. On that occasion, its remaining armed ships continued to support the operation. While individual acts of heroism and resourcefulness were evidenced many times, it was during Operation Gibraltar, 18 to 20 September, and at Plei Me, 21 to 28 October, that the individual performance of all members of the 52d Aviation Battalion was so outstanding as to preclude the citation for extraordinary heroism of all persons who successfully contributed to the decisive defeat of the enemy. At Plei Me, the battalion conducted repeated medical evacuation sorties into the battle area despite intensive and accurate fire from heavy machineguns on surrounding hills, and landed relieving forces in dense jungle nearby. It continued to support the relief operation for ten days, mounting operations on short notice, and often flying into Plei Me to remove critically wounded men, even though the camp was under heavy small arms fire. During Operation Gibraltar, 34 of 36 battalion helicopters received ground fire damage while three others were shot down. At Plei Me, two helicopters with their crews were lost on the first day, but the proficiency and vigor of the battalion did not lag, even in hazardous night extractions. The unflagging determination, gallantry, and militant spirit in which the 52d Aviation Battalion accomplished all its tasks, and volunteered to perform missions above and beyond its assigned duties in the face of violent enemy fire, are in keeping with the finest traditions of the United States Army, and reflect great credit on all members of the units who participated in these exceptional combat actions.

3. 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 Army of the Republic of Vietnam for extraordinary heroism while engaged in military operations during the periods indicated: The citations read as follows:

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

THE 1ST BATTALION, 43D INFANTRY REGIMENT
ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

for extraordinary heroism:

The 1st Battalion, 43d Infantry Regiment, 10th Infantry Division, Army of the Republic of Vietnam, is cited for outstanding performance of duty and heroism in action against an armed enemy in the "New Life" hamlet of Vo Xu, Binh Tuy Province, Republic of Vietnam on 28 February 1966 while defending the hamlet against a reinforced Viet Cong Regiment (1000-1700 men) attack on their perimeter defenses. When the first assault was initiated by a numerically superior enemy force the 1st Battalion, without hesitation, deployed, utilizing sound defensive techniques, to repel this massive assault and did so with such force, fury, and determination that the enemy was forced to fall back, regroup, receive reinforcements, and renew their assault from a different

direction. In the close savage fighting that ensued the 1st Battalion continued to resist the enemy's penetration while under intense automatic weapon, .50 caliber machinegun, mortar, and recoilless rifle fire, even though outnumbered by a 4 to 1 ratio and cut-off from outside assistance except for air support. After repelling two more successive multi-battalion assaults during the next three hours, the Viet Cong were eventually able to overwhelm a portion of the defenders perimeter and overrun the Battalion Command Post. The Battalion continued to fight effectively and bravely throughout the night against the over-whelming enemy force. The Commanding Officer, 2nd Company reorganized and rallied his unit and, at dawn, counterattacked and succeeded in clearing the Battalion's position despite meeting heavy Viet Cong small arms fire. The action of the 1st Battalion, 43d Infantry Regiment, in defending, holding and later counterattacking a well armed enemy force more than four times its size, ranks as one of the outstanding in the Vietnamese conflict and is in the highest tradition of military service.

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

THE SECTOR INTELLIGENCE PLATOON, BINH DUONG SECTOR
and
THE 1ST PLATOON, 261ST REGIONAL FORCE RIFLE COMPANY
of the
ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

for extraordinary heroism:

The SECTOR INTELLIGENCE PLATOON, BINH DUONG SECTOR, and the 1ST PLATOON, 261ST REGIONAL FORCE RIFLE COMPANY, ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM, distinguished themselves by extraordinary heroism in action against hostile forces in the Republic of Vietnam during the period June 1964 to May 1965. These platoons, both acting as Sector intelligence platoons, conducted one hundred and two combat operations, varying from one to several days duration, sixty of which led to direct contact with the Viet Cong. These operations were of significant value in securing information which contributed materially to the success of the Hop Tac program in Binh Duong Province. Although their encounters with the hostile elements resulted in the death of two hundred and eleven Viet Cong and the capture of one hundred and three of them, the BINH DUONG SECTOR PLATOON and the 1ST PLATOON of the 261ST REGIONAL FORCE RIFLE COMPANY did not have a single soldier captured and had only one man killed and ten wounded. They also proved their tactical expertise by not losing a single weapon to the insurgents throughout this entire period. Through their indomitable courage, perseverance, and professional ability, the members of these platoons insured the success of the military missions in the Sector and provided an inspiring example for other units to follow. The devotion to duty, determination, and extraordinary heroism demonstrated by the members of the BINH DUONG SECTOR PLATOON and the 1ST PLATOON of the 261ST REGIONAL FORCE RIFLE COMPANY, ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM, are in the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon themselves and the Republic of Vietnam.

III. 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 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:

THE 1ST ENGINEER BATTALION, 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION, distinguished itself by exceptionally meritorious conduct in Vietnam in connection with military operations against hostile forces from February 1966 to May 1966. In Operation ROLLING STONE in Binh Duong Province during the period 7 February 1966 to 2 March 1966, the 1st Engineer Battalion was assigned the hazardous and difficult mission of constructing 11 miles of all-weather, bridge free, two-lane road from National Highway 13 at Ben Cat to Provincial Highway 16 south of Phuoc Vinh. This road through Viet Cong dominated territory provides access between the Infamous Iron Triangle and War Zone D. Prior to the arrival of other Security Forces for Operation Rolling Stone, the 1st Engineer Battalion started construction of the first mile of road using Engineers as Infantry to sweep and secure the construction area. Each morning, as construction continued, a morning patrol of Engineer Tankdozers, Mine Sweepers and Engineers-as-Infantry providing close-in support, swept the road for mines. The Battalion was harassed daily by Viet Cong sniper fire, abatis on the road, grenades and mines, causing 32 casualties but the equipment was operated all during the daylight hours despite the danger involved. Despite mounting casualties, the men of the battalion continued to purposefully pursue their mission with high morale and unflinching confidence in themselves and their leaders. On 26 February, Company C, moved out in force to secure the construction area. In the fire fight that ensued for half an hour with a Viet Cong Unit, the Engineers drove the insurgents away by massed small arms fire and tankdozer cannon fire. At the end of three weeks despite all the obstacles and casualties from Viet Cong harassment, the 1st Engineer Battalion had completed the main supply route ahead of schedule, opening a large area to friendly military movement and providing a mark road for many villages and hamlets. In Operation Abilene in Phuoc Try Province during the period 29 March to 14 April, a 1st Engineer Battalion Task Force at great hazard to those involved, descended by ladder from a Chinook Helicopter, hovering at 70 feet amidst 140 foot trees, to construct a landing zone for the evacuation of 100 casualties on the jungle floor. In the same operation a combined Company B and D Force, despite mines and snipers, constructed a four mile pioneer road through dense jungle and a 100 foot bridge across the Song Rai River. In operation Birmingham in Tay Ninh Province from 23 April to 16 May 1966, Companies A and D reinforced by elements of Companies C and E and Headquarters Company constructed division main supply routes past the Viet Cong infested Nui Ba Den Mountain near Dau Tieng. In these operations frequent sniper fire and mines casualties, especially among the exposed mine clearing parties, equipment operators, and supervisors. The company commander of Company A was killed while going to the assistance of a forward sweeping party which had suffered one killed and seven wounded. Earlier, Company A in a priority mission, despite incoming Viet Cong small arms fire ricocheting across the road, worked arduously in a heavily mined

area to complete a by-pass causeway for passage of an armored column. Later in constructing the main supply route to Dau Tieng on the morning of 11 May. Heavy monsoon rains came on 10 May, setting construction back. The Engineer Forces, on their own initiative and despite two casualties from sniping and hazards of ambush on the road in darkness, worked all night under headlights hauling laterite one mile to the road and bridge site. The critical crossing was completed and the road craters filled by dawn, permitting passage of artillery, as scheduled. The untiring and relentless effort put forth under such hazardous conditions by the 1st Engineer Battalion is in keeping with the finest traditions of Corps of Engineers and the United States Army and reflects great credit upon all members of the unit who participated in these significant operations.

Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 1st Logistical Command, is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service in the Republic of Vietnam in support of combat operations during the period from 1 April 1965 to 31 December 1965. Activated in country at the beginning of this period, Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 1st Logistical Command, was assigned the mission or organization, command and control of the total logistical effort in support of a massive build-up in United States and other Free World Forces. Operating with limited resources and under extremely difficult and hazardous conditions, this unit displayed outstanding efficiency and devotion to duty in the prompt establishment of key logistical support bases at strategic sites throughout the Republic of Vietnam. This accomplishment assured the successful landing, deployment, and support of numerous units and combat forces arriving in Vietnam during the period, including the 1st U.S. Infantry Division, the Republic of Korea Tiger Division and an augmentation to the Australian Forces then in country. Notable in this connection was Operation "HIGHLAND" wherein Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 1st Logistical Command, planned and supervised successful execution of the off-loading at Qui Nhon and movement to An Khe of the 1st Cavalry Division, completing this mission in a record time of 15 days. Concurrently, Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 1st Logistical Command, provided both general and direct support for many combat operations in the Republic of Vietnam, in all instances satisfying supply and service requirements and thereby assisting in the attainment of tactical objectives. The extraordinary contribution of this unit to the vital efforts of United States Army and Free World Forces in the Republic of Vietnam during this period reflect the highest credit upon the supply and service structure of the United States Army.

THE 16TH MEDICAL DISPENSARY (GENERAL) MA distinguished itself by exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in support of military operations during the period July 1965 to January 1966 in the Republic of Vietnam. Upon arrival in Vietnam, the unit was integrated with the 129th Medical Detachment and 145th Aviation Battalion Medical Section until facilities were completed to house the 16th Medical Dispensary (General). On 9 December 1964, the unit moved into their new facility at Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Republic of Vietnam. During the period 9 December 1964 to 30 June 1965, the dispensary provided outpatient medical support to an average troop strength of 2,400 personnel per month. Because of the massive troop movement to Vietnam from 1 July 1965 to 31 January 1966, the workload of the medical dispensary increased, but the unit met and handled each prevail-

ing problem without an increase in professional staffing or personnel. The dispensary treated over 16,000 patients and administered over 21,900 immunizations in addition to performing outpatient services. Because of the 16th Medical Dispensary's staff member's willingness to work far beyond the normal expected duty hours, month after month, the highest standards of medical treatment were provided for an exceedingly large number of patients. Through the untiring efforts of the officers and men of the 16th Medical Dispensary (General), services in support of a support command unit have been provided at an unprecedented level.

THE 41ST SIGNAL BATTALION (CA), and attached units—178th Signal Company (Support), the 586th Signal Company (Support), the 578th Signal Company (Cable Construction), and the 228th Signal Company (RR VHF), have distinguished themselves by exceptionally meritorious service in the performance of providing outstanding initiative, perseverance and professional competence in meeting the constantly increasing requirements for communications support for United States Forces in the I and II ARVN Corps areas of the Republic of Vietnam. During this period, the communications in these areas were radically transformed from a relatively small and over committed system to a highly efficient tactical communications network. Although faced with problems of equipment incompatibility and personnel shortages, the battalion consistently accomplished every task assigned it in an outstanding manner. The conscientious and diligent efforts of the battalion resulted in establishing many communications systems that were theoretically improbable, or impossible and thereby added immeasurably to the success of the counter insurgency effort during this period. The battalion constantly worked long hours, often under extremely hazardous conditions, to provide communications service wherever required; the skill displayed by all members of the unit is the more commendable because of the tremendous handicaps overcome in providing this service. The high terrain required to install the line-of-sight VHF equipment was under the control of the Viet Cong, thereby necessitating the use of the obstacle gain technique to provide the required systems. Although this technique normally meets with only limited success, the 41st Signal Battalion (CA) installed twelve systems utilizing this technique and each system provided quality circuits. Transportation problems created by lack of control of the highways were ably overcome by the battalion through efficient use of organic aviation and meticulous planning to insure maximum utilization of all support aircraft in transporting equipment and personnel to the areas needed. The battalion made a significant contribution to Signal Corps doctrine and concepts on the employment of communications in support of the counter-insurgency effort in Vietnam, and much of the current communications doctrine in Vietnam is based on the success of the 41st Signal Battalion (CA) in accomplishing its mission under a revised TOE especially adapted to meet the requirements of the area. The professional competence, exceptional accomplishments, and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 41st Signal Battalion (CA) in adapting to the environment and mission of the counter-insurgency effort in Vietnam reflects great credit upon themselves, the Signal Corps, and the United States Army.

The 50th Signal Battalion (Airborne Corps) distinguished itself by exceptionally meritorious service during the period 29 April 1965 to 31 January 1966 by outstanding performance as part of the Inter-American Peace Force engaged

in quelling the civil strife in the Dominican Republic. During this period, the unit's performance was marked by exceptional professionalism, courage, diplomacy, and devotion to duty displayed by each of its members. The 50th Signal Battalion provided communications support to elements of the United States Department of State, the United States Armed Forces, and the Inter-American Peace Force in addition to Headquarters, XVIII Airborne Corps. The 50th Signal Battalion successfully provided high quality, reliable communications to its subscribers around the clock throughout the entire stability operation under adverse conditions. Of particular significance was the speed and efficiency in which the 50th Signal Battalion established tactical communication systems within the Dominican Republic and strategic communications systems back to the United States, utilizing its tactical VHF radio, HF radio and wire equipment in conjunction with available commercial systems. In exercising control over some 21 telephone switchboards, the unit established a record of having processed more than 3,000,000 telephone calls during the period. The esprit de corps and accomplishments of the 50th Signal Battalion (Airborne Corps) reflected great credit upon the unit and the United States Army and contributed materially to the successful accomplishment of the stability operation in the Dominican Republic.

The 87th Engineer Battalion (Construction) distinguished itself by exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services while serving in the theater of operations, Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam, during the period August 1965 to April 1966. The unit has directly contributed to the war effort by theater of operation construction so as to enable storage and movement of war supplies throughout Vietnam. During the period indicated, the 87th Engineer Battalion (Construction) has hauled more than 2,850,000 cubic yards of fill, placed over 11,000 cubic yards of concrete, cleared over 175 acres of land, completed over 285,000 square feet of storage area, built over 290,000 square feet of troop billets, completed over 60,000 square feet of vertical construction, and produced over 75,000 tons of rock. The performance of the officers and men of the 87th Engineer Battalion (Construction) has been characterized by efficient planning, meticulous attention to detail, and an exceptional ability to conceive and carry out efficient construction techniques under changing conditions. The performance of its members distinguished it as a unit which has brought great credit to the Corps of Engineers and the United States Army.

THE 220TH AVIATION COMPANY distinguished itself by exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services during the period July 1965 through April 1966, while engaged in combat operations against the Viet Cong rebels and elements of the North Vietnamese Army operating in the Republic of Vietnam. In support of the counter-insurgency effort by Free World Forces in the Republic of Vietnam, pilots of the company initiated attacks that accounted for enemy personnel losses exceeding the strength of two battalions. In addition, pilots of the company initiated many attacks that seriously hampered enemy resupply efforts and denied him the use of secure base areas. Frequently subjected to enemy fire, pilots of the company established a reputation for bravery, professional competence, and unusual aggressiveness. Working under trying conditions, support personnel of the company established an enviable record in the field of aviation maintenance. Although each aircraft was flown an average of 110 hours per month, and in spite of frequent battle damages, the Equipment Deadline Maintenance rate

averaged 3 percent below the Department of the Army goal of 11 percent. The performance of all members of the 220th Aviation Company is in the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon them, their unit, and the United States Army.

COMPANY A, 326TH ENGINEER BATTALION distinguished itself by exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services, during the period July 1965 to February 1966, in the Republic of Vietnam. Arriving in country Company A first established a base camp, carving it from jungle wilderness, and prepared by comprehensive training for future jungle operations. In one week the company swept two mine fields near Qui Nhon, and secured, repaired, and cleared of mines Route 19 from Qui Nhon to An Khe, all without loss of a single soldier or piece of equipment. During the month of September, at An Khe, the engineers cleared the brigade camp of 225 mines, while combat demolition teams unflinchingly accompanied the infantry into battle in operation Gibraltar and destroyed numerous enemy mines, munitions, and supplies. From October to November, the engineers, with foresight, completely reworked the camp road network near Qui Nhon in anticipation of the coming monsoon season. Moving to the brigade new base camp at Phan Rang on 4 November, Company A Engineers built 6000 meters of fence, cut a road net, installed culverts and raised tents in sixteen days at Phan Rang. During Operation Checkerboard, in December, the company opened a waterpoint, secured the brigade perimeter, repaired roads and bridges, conducted minesweeping operations, and in combat destroyed an entire enemy regimental base complex. The company again performed multiple operation during Operation Van Buren, January to February 1966, near Tuy Hoa, where it repaired roads and bridges and gave direct support to infantry units with demolition teams, tactical bridging, and security operations. Throughout all of the activities, Company A maintained a high morale and high standard of readiness while performing difficult tasks with great efficiency under tough conditions. The impressive works, outstanding efficiency, and high morale of Company, 326th Engineer Battalion reflect the finest traditions of the Army and great credit upon the unit itself, the 101st Airborne Division, and the Armed Forces of the United States.

The 379th Signal Battalion (Support) is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services during the period April 1965 to April 1966 in support of combat operations and the Military Assistance Program in Thailand to the United States Army, Air Force, governmental agencies and Joint Headquarters. Responsible for the installation, operation, maintenance and logistical support of Tropospheric Scatter and VHF communications systems over an area of several thousand square miles, the battalion maintained an extremely high circuit reliability throughout its enormous area of responsibility. For the first eleven months of the cited period, the battalion was responsible for systems control and technical management of the entire Communications Base Thailand. Though this mission is normally assigned to a joint service agency, by dedicated leadership, concerted effort and positive and aggressive leadership the Communications-Electronics Base steadily improved to become a totally dependable and completely reliable facility. Although taxed to the utmost in providing normal communications, the battalion vigorously and willingly assumed the mission of providing con-

tingency communications support. Detailed plans were made to exploit all available resources, and a program of field exercises was initiated to train all units in this area. While maintaining high performance communications through increased effort and working hours a series of field exercises was conducted deploying approximately twenty percent of the battalions strength. During this arduous period 100,000 vehicle miles were traveled without incident or accident. By its resolute determination to excell, its demonstrated capability of translating plans into well executed action, its high standards of proficiency, its positive leadership and total dedication to mission accomplishment, the 379th Signal Battalion (Support) has reflected the highest credit upon itself and the military service of the United States.

THE 820TH ORDNANCE COMPANY (AMMUNITION) distinguished itself by exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam from September 1965 to March 1966. Throughout this period, the members of this company demonstrated professional skill, courage, and outstanding effectiveness in providing Class V supply and support to the Free World Forces in the II Vietnamese Army Corps area. Despite the continuous increase in work, the unit expeditiously met the additional requirements by working hours far in excess of those even abnormally expected. Through the determination, professional ability, and fortitude of the members of the 820th Ordnance Company (Ammunition), ammunition was moved constantly for resupply in support of military operations. To accomplish this task, they willingly worked on a 24 hour-a-day basis, exhibiting alacrity, ingenuity and dilligence. The outstanding achievements of this company contributed in great measure to the attainment of significant objectives by the United States Army in Vietnam. The devotion to duty and esprit de corps displayed by the members of the 820th Ordnance Company (Ammunition) during this critical period limns a portrait of professional competence and reflects great credit upon themselves and the military service of the United States.

By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

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