

GENERAL ORDERS

No. 53

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 paragraphs 194 and 202.1, AR 672-5-1, the Valorous Unit Award is confirmed for the following-named units of the United States Army for extraordinary heroism while engaged in military operations during the periods indicated as awarded by cited authority.

1. 3D SQUADRON, 11TH ARMORED CAVALRY REGIMENT and its assigned and attached units:

Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 3d Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment

Troop I, 3d Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment

Troop K, 3d Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment

Company M, 3d Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment (For the period 19 and 20 June 1969)

Howitzer Battery, 3d Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment (For the period 19 and 20 June 1969)

Company A, 1st Battalion, 2d Infantry (For the period 18 through 20 June 1969)

Troop F, 2d Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment (For the period 19 and 20 June 1969)

Company H, 2d Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment (On 18 June 1969)

For the period 17 through 20 June 1969 as announced in United States Army Vietnam General Orders 1454, 1970.

2. 1ST SQUADRON, 1ST CAVALRY and its attached unit:

Troop F, 8th Cavalry

For the period 24 August 1968 through 25 September 1968 as announced in United States Army Vietnam General Order 2976, 1970.

3. 35TH ENGINEER BATTALION and its attached units:

511th Engineer Company

517th Engineer Company

For the period 8 February to 15 September 1968 as announced in United States Army Vietnam General Order 1539, 1970.

II. MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION. By direction of the Secretary of the Army, under the provisions of paragraphs 194 and 203, AR 672-5-1, the Meritorious Unit Commendation is confirmed for the following-named units of the United States Army for exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service during the periods indicated as awarded by cited authority.

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1. 1ST AVIATION BATTALION

For the period 1 November 1968 to 12 May 1969 as announced in United States Army, Vietnam General Orders 2072, 1970.

2. 2D SURGICAL HOSPITAL

For the period 9 December 1968 through 9 December 1969 as announced in United States Army, Vietnam Orders 1900, 1970.

3. 6TH TRANSPORTATION BATTALION and its assigned and attached units:

Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 6th Transportation Battalion
86th Transportation Company
87th Transportation Company
151st Transportation Company
261st Transportation Company (For the period 1 July 1968 through 15 January 1969)
319th Transportation Company (For the period 1 October 1968 through 30 June 1969)
321st Transportation Company (For the period 1 November 1968 through 30 June 1969)
352d Transportation Company
572d Transportation Company (For the period 10 December 1968 through 30 June 1969)

For the period 1 July 1968 through 30 June 1969 as announced in United States Army, Vietnam General Orders 1901, 1970.

4. SUPPORT COMMAND, 23D INFANTRY DIVISION and its assigned units:

Headquarters and Headquarters Company and Band, 23d Infantry Division Support Command
Headquarters and Company A, 23d Medical Battalion
Company B, 23d Medical Battalion (For the period 15 February 1969 to 31 August 1969)
Company C, 23d Medical Battalion (For the period 15 February 1969 to 31 August 1969)
Company D, 23d Medical Battalion (For the period 15 February 1969 to 31 August 1969)
23d Supply and Transport Battalion
Headquarters and Company A, 723d Maintenance Battalion
Company B, 723d Maintenance Battalion (For the period 15 February 1969 to 31 August 1969)
Company C, 723d Maintenance Battalion (For the period 15 February 1969 to 31 August 1969)
Company D, 723d Maintenance Battalion (For the period 15 February 1969 to 31 August 1969)
Americal Combat Center (Provisional)
23d Administration Company
Company G, 75th Infantry (For the period 1 February 1969 to 31 August 1969)
63d Infantry Platoon (For the period 15 March 1968 to 31 August 1969)
For the period 1 January 1968 to 31 August 1969 as announced in United States Army, Vietnam General Orders 1455, 1970.

5. HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT, 44TH MEDICAL BRIGADE and its assigned units :

222d Personnel Service Company
658th Medical Company

For the period 1 January 1968 through 31 March 1969 as announced in United States Army, Vietnam General Orders 5561, 1969.

6. 93D EVACUATION HOSPITAL and its assigned units :

46th Medical Detachment
53d Medical Detachment
935th Medical Detachment

For the period 1 May 1969 to 30 November 1969 as announced in United States Army, Vietnam General Orders 1899, 1970.

7. 168TH ENGINEER BATTALION

For the period 1 November 1968 to 30 June 1969 as announced in United States Army, Vietnam General Orders 674, 1970.

8. 172D PREVENTIVE MEDICINE UNIT and its assigned units :

3d Medical Detachment
926th Medical Detachment

For the period 1 August 1968 to 1 August 1969 as announced in United States Army, Vietnam General Orders 1456, 1970.

9. 219TH MEDICAL DETACHMENT

For the period 23 May 1968 to 30 November 1969 as announced in United States Army, Vietnam General Orders 1457, 1970.

III. VIETNAMESE CROSS OF GALLANTRY WITH PALM. 1. The award of the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Palm by the Republic of Vietnam to a unit of the United States Army listed below is confirmed.

2. The Cross of Gallantry with Palm has been awarded by the Government of the Republic of Vietnam for outstanding service during the period 7 June 1969 through 9 February 1970 :

DETACHMENT B-36, 5TH SPECIAL FORCES GROUP, 1ST SPECIAL FORCES

The citation reads as follows :

Detachment B-36, 5th Special Forces Group, 1st Special Forces is an outstanding and gallant unit. Operating with B-23 Detachment, Vietnamese Special Forces group, the Detachment has proved to be a unit rich in combat capability. In particular the men of Detachment B-36 disregarded danger, assaulting and seizing objectives during Operation Toan Thang 500/317, conducted from 7 June 1969 to 16 July 1969 in War Zone D. During this operation large quantities of military equipment, medicines, food, and documents were seized. Detachment B-36 also participated in Operation Dong Tien 500/387 in the border area of Phuoc Long Province, achieving many splendid victories.

IV. CIVIL ACTION HONOR MEDAL, FIRST CLASS. 1. The award of the Civil Action Honor Medal, First Class by the Republic of Vietnam to units of the United States Army listed below is confirmed.

2. The Civil Action Honor Medal, First Class has been awarded by the Government of the Republic of Vietnam for outstanding service during the periods indicated to :

1ST INFANTRY DIVISION and its assigned and attached units:

- Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Infantry Division (For the period October 1965 to 7 April 1970)
- Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division (For the period October 1965 to 7 April 1970)
- Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2d Brigade, 1st Infantry Division (For the period 12 July 1965 to 7 April 1970)
- Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3d Brigade, 1st Infantry Division (For the period October 1965 to 7 April 1970)
- Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1st Infantry Division Artillery (For the period October 1965 to 7 April 1970)
- Headquarters, Headquarters Company and Band, 1st Infantry Division Support Command (For the period October 1965 to 7 April 1970)
- 1st Administration Company (For the period October 1965 to 7 April 1970)
- 1st Aviation Battalion (For the period October 1965 to 7 April 1970)
- 1st Engineer Battalion (For the period October 1965 to 7 April 1970)
(For Company B—12 July 1965 to 7 April 1970)
- 1st Medical Battalion (For the period October 1965 to 7 April 1970) (For Company C—12 July 1965 to 7 April 1970)
- 1st Military Police Company (For the period October 1965 to 7 April 1970)
(For 2d Platoon—12 July 1965 to 7 April 1970)
- 1st Supply and Transport Battalion (For the period October 1965 to 7 April 1970)
- 1st Battalion, 2d Infantry (For the period October 1965 to 7 April 1970)
- 2d Battalion, 2d Infantry (For the period October 1965 to 7 April 1970)
- 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry (For the period October 1965 to 7 April 1970)
(For Troop C—12 July 1965 to 7 April 1970)
- 1st Battalion, 5th Artillery (For the period October 1965 to 7 April 1970)
- 8th Battalion, 6th Artillery (For the period October 1965 to 7 April 1970)
- 1st Battalion, 7th Artillery (For the period 12 July 1965 to 7 April 1970)
- 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry (For the period October 1965 to 7 April 1970)
- 2d Battalion, 16th Infantry (For the period 12 July 1965 to 7 April 1970)
- 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry (For the period 12 July 1965 to 7 April 1970)
- 2d Battalion, 18th Infantry (For the period 12 July 1965 to 7 April 1970)
- 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry (For the period October 1965 to 7 April 1970)
- 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry (For the period October 1965 to 7 April 1970)
- 2d Battalion, 28th Infantry (For the period October 1965 to 7 April 1970)
- 2d Battalion, 33d Artillery (For the period October 1965 to 7 April 1970)
- 121st Signal Battalion (For the period October 1965 to 7 April 1970) (For Company B—12 July 1965 to 7 April 1970)
- 701st Maintenance Battalion (For the period October 1965 to 7 April 1970)
(For Company B—12 July 1965 to 7 April 1970)
- Company F, 52d Infantry (For the period November 1967 to July 1968)
- 1st Military Intelligence Detachment (For the period October 1965 to 7 April 1970)
- 242d Chemical Detachment (For the period October 1965 to 7 April 1970)
- 266th Chemical Platoon (For the period October 1965 to 7 April 1970)
- 17th Military History Detachment (For the period August 1966 to 7 April 1970)

35th Infantry Platoon (For the period June 1966 to 7 April 1970)
 61st Infantry Platoon (For the period February 1968 to 7 April 1970)
 43d Public Information Detachment (For the period May 1967 to 7 April 1970)
 44th Public Information Detachment (For the period May 1967 to 7 April 1970)
 41st Infantry Platoon (For the period May 1967 to 7 April 1970)
 50th Military Intelligence Detachment (For the period November 1967 to July 1968)
 234th Artillery Detachment (For the period February 1966 to July 1968)
 260th Artillery Detachment (For the period August 1968 to October 1968)
 314th Aviation Detachment (For the period August 1968 to 7 April 1970)
 317th Aviation Detachment (For the period August 1968 to 7 April 1970)
 322d Aviation Detachment (For the period August 1968 to July 1969)
 340th Aviation Detachment (For the period May 1967 to 7 April 1970)
 1st Platoon, Battery I, 29th Artillery (For the period November 1967 to 7 April 1970)
 6th Battalion, 15th Artillery (For the period May 1967 to April 1968)
 Company B, 2d Battalion, 34th Armor (For the period 31 January 1969 to 7 April 1970)
 391st Quartermaster Detachment (For the period 23 October 1967 to 16 October 1968)
 Battery C, 2d Battalion, 35th Artillery (For the period 18 February 1967 to 14 April 1970)
 Battery A, 5th Battalion, 2d Artillery (For the period 17 December 1966 to 4 April 1967)
 Company I, 75th Infantry (For the period February 1969 to 7 April 1970)
 269th Artillery Detachment (For the period February 1969 to 7 April 1970)
 Air Liaison Officers, Forward Air Controllers and Tactical Air Control Party personnel of the 7th Air Force
 32d Detachment, 5th Air Weather Squadron (For the period August 1966 to 7 April 1970)

The citation reads as follows:

Operating in the Republic of Vietnam since 12 July 1965, aside from its splendid military victories, the U.S. 1st Infantry Division has also achieved great success in its efforts to relieve suffering and distress caused by the war in South Vietnam. Significantly, it has provided highly effective support for the Pacification and Reconstruction Campaign of the Republic of Vietnam Government, achieving successful results. With a charitable spirit and immeasurable effort to counter harassing and subversive activities of the Communists, the civil affairs program of the U.S. 1st Infantry Division has been extensive. With money contributed by servicemen, and with 740,176 man-hours of activities in support of the civil affairs program in the fields of public health, social welfare, education, communication, economic development and psychological warfare, the U.S. 1st Infantry Division has achieved outstanding results. The U.S. 1st Infantry Division has contributed significantly to the fight against the Communists and to the national reconstruction efforts of the Republic of Vietnam.

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3. The Civil Action Honor Medal, First Class has been awarded by the Government of the Republic of Vietnam for outstanding service during the periods indicated to:

4TH INFANTRY DIVISION and its assigned and attached units:

- Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4th Infantry Division (For the period 1 October 1966 through 31 October 1969)
- Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Brigade, 4th Infantry Division (For the period 1 October 1966 through 31 October 1969)
- Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2d Brigade, 4th Infantry Division (For the period 1 October 1966 through 31 October 1969)
- Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3d Brigade, 4th Infantry Division (For the period 1 August 1967 through 31 October 1969)
- Headquarters, Headquarters Company and Band, 4th Infantry Division Support Command (For the period 1 October 1966 through 31 October 1969)
- Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 4th Infantry Division Artillery (For the period 1 October 1966 through 31 October 1969)
- 4th Administration Company (For the period 1 October 1966 through 31 October 1969)
- 4th Aviation Battalion (For the period 1 October 1966 through 31 October 1969)
- 4th Military Police Company (For the period 1 October 1966 through 31 October 1969)
- 4th Supply and Transport Battalion (For the period 1 October 1966 through 31 October 1969)
- 4th Engineer Battalion (For the period 1 October 1966 through 31 October 1969) (For Company C—1 August 1967 through 31 October 1969)
- 4th Medical Battalion (For the period 1 October 1966 through 31 October 1969) (For Company D—1 August 1967 through 31 October 1969)
- 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry (For the period 1 October 1966 through 31 October 1969) (For Troop C—1 August 1967 through 31 October 1969)
- 704th Maintenance Battalion (For the period 1 October 1966 through 31 October 1969) (For Company B—1 August 1967 through 31 October 1969)
- 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry (For the period 1 October 1966 through 31 October 1969)
- 2d Battalion, 8th Infantry (For the period 1 October 1966 through 31 October 1969)
- 3d Battalion, 8th Infantry (For the period 1 October 1966 through 31 October 1969)
- 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry (For the period 1 October 1966 through 31 October 1969)
- 3d Battalion, 12th Infantry (For the period 1 October 1966 through 31 October 1969)
- 5th Battalion, 16th Artillery (For the period 1 October 1966 through 31 October 1969)
- 1st Battalion, 22d Infantry (For the period 1 October 1966 through 31 October 1969)

6th Battalion, 29th Artillery (For the period 1 October 1966 through 31 October 1969)
33d Infantry Platoon (For the period 1 October 1966 through 31 October 1969)
4th Battalion, 42d Artillery (For the period 1 October 1966 through 31 October 1969)
124th Signal Battalion (For the period 1 October 1966 through 31 October 1969)
40th Infantry Platoon (For the period 1 August 1967 through 31 October 1969)
1st Battalion, 14th Infantry (For the period 1 August 1967 through 31 October 1969)
1st Battalion, 35th Infantry (For the period 1 August 1967 through 31 October 1969)
2d Battalion, 35th Infantry (For the period 1 August 1967 through 31 October 1969)
1st Battalion, 69th Armor (For the period 1 August 1967 through 31 October 1969)
2d Battalion, 9th Artillery (For the period 1 August 1967 through 31 October 1969)
Troop C, 3d Squadron, 4th Cavalry (For the period 1 October 1966 through 1 August 1967)
Company B, 25th Medical Battalion (For the period 1 October 1966 through 1 August 1967)
Company D, 65th Engineer Battalion (For the period 1 October 1966 through 1 August 1967)
Company D, 725 Maintenance Battalion (For the period 1 October 1966 through 1 August 1967)
14th Public Information Detachment (For the period 1 August 1967 through 31 October 1969)
50th Infantry Platoon (For the period 8 March 1967 through 31 October 1969)
64th Infantry Platoon (For the period 15 March 1967 through 31 October 1969)
Battery D, 4th Battalion, 60th Artillery (For the period 25 March 1967 through 31 October 1969)
2d Squadron, 1st Cavalry (For the period 30 August 1967 through 28 July 1969) (For Troop D—31 July 1968 through 1 July 1969)
4th Military Intelligence Detachment (For the period 19 February 1968 through 31 October 1969)
Company E, 58th Infantry (For the period 20 December 1967 through 31 January 1969)
Company E, 20th Infantry (For the period 15 October 1967 through 10 October 1968)
39th Medical Detachment (For the period 24 December 1967 through 31 October 1969)
29th Military History Detachment (For the period 24 December 1967 through 31 October 1969)
43d Chemical Detachment (For the period 19 February 1968 through 31 October 1969)

- 21st Public Information Detachment (For the period 19 February 1968 through 31 October 1969)
- 62d Signal Detachment (For the period 1 February 1969 through 29 July 1969)
- 270th Artillery Detachment (For the period 10 May 1969 through 25 September 1969)
- 374th Radio Research Detachment (For the period 1 January 1967 through 31 October 1969)
- 582d Military Intelligence Detachment (For the period 30 July 1967 through 31 October 1969)
- Company E, 41st Artillery (For the period 25 April 1967 through 31 October 1969)
- 3d Support Battalion (Provisional) (For the period 9 December 1967 through 6 April 1968)
- 360th Aviation Detachment (For the period 4 May 1968 through 31 October 1969)
- 366th Aviation Detachment (For the period 4 May 1968 through 31 October 1969)
- Company K, 75th Infantry (For the period 1 February 1969 through 31 October 1969)

The citation reads as follows:

The 4th Infantry Division as an outstanding fighting unit, with excellent soldiers, has always distinguished itself through exceptional spirit in civil affairs activities. During the 3 years of service in Vietnam from 1 October 1966 to 31 October 1969, in addition to its duties of providing military assistance to the Armed Forces of the Republic of Vietnam in its operations against the enemy, the 4th Infantry Division also constantly sought to overcome every difficulty in assisting the citizens of Vietnam and the regional officials in the field in civil actions projects. Among many other accomplishments, the 4th Infantry Division provided the people of Plieku, Kontum, and Binh Dinh provinces with food, clothing, and medical equipment, as well as preparing and building schools, and settling the population into the 12th and 19th "New Life" hamlets of the government. In addition, the 4th Infantry Division was instrumental in improving and developing "Miracle Rice" and the fruit-bearing tree programs in these areas. The successes of the 4th Infantry Division's efforts have contributed greatly in the "Rural-Establishment and Pacification Project" of the government of the Republic of Vietnam and reflect distinct credit upon them and their government.

- V. VIETNAMESE CROSS OF GALLANTRY WITH PALM.**
1. Paragraph 2, Section III, DA General Orders 59, 1969, pertaining to the award of the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Palm to the 1st Cavalry Division and its assigned and attached units is amended to add: "(For the period 20 December 1967 to 31 January 1969)", after Company E, 52d Infantry.
 2. Paragraph 2, Section III, DA General Orders 59, 1969, pertaining to the award of the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Palm to the 1st Cavalry Division and its assigned and attached units is amended to add: "Company H, 75th Infantry (For the period 1 February to 19 May 1969)".
 3. Paragraph 4, Section III, DA General Orders 59, 1969, pertaining to the

award of the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Palm to the 9th Infantry Division and its assigned and attached units is amended to add "(For the period February to June 1969)", after Company E, 75th Infantry.

4. Paragraph 4, Section III, DA General Orders 59, 1969, pertaining to the award of the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Palm to the 9th Infantry Division and its assigned and attached units is amended to add: "Company E, 50th Infantry (For the period January 1969)".

VI. CIVIL ACTION HONOR MEDAL, FIRST CLASS. 1. Paragraph 2, Section V, DA General Orders 59, 1969, pertaining to the award of the Civil Action Honor Medal, First Class to the 9th Infantry Division and its assigned and attached units is amended to add: "3d Battalion, 39th Infantry".

2. Paragraph 2, Section V, DA General Orders 59, 1969, pertaining to the award of the Civil Action Honor Medal, First Class, to the 9th Infantry Division and its assigned and attached units is amended to add: "(For the period 1 February to 28 June 1969)", after Company E, 75th Infantry.

3. Paragraph 2, Section V, DA General Orders 59, 1969, pertaining to the award of the Civil Action Honor Medal, First Class, to the 9th Infantry Division and its assigned and attached units is amended to add: "Company E, 50th Infantry (For the period 20 December 1967 to 31 January 1969)".

VII. VIETNAM CAMPAIGN PARTICIPATION CREDITS. 1. Paragraph 3, Section II, DA General Orders 47, 1969, pertaining to Vietnam Counteroffensive, Phase III Campaign, is amended to delete: "271st Aviation Company".

2. Paragraph 3, Section II, DA General Orders 47, 1969, pertaining to Vietnam Counteroffensive, Phase III is amended to add: "4th Battalion, 3d Infantry".

3. Paragraph 3, Section II, DA General Orders 54, 1969, pertaining to TET Counteroffensive Campaign, is amended to delete:

"3d Battalion, 4th Infantry"

"5th Battalion, 12th Infantry"

"4th Battalion, 21st Infantry"

4. Paragraph 3, Section II, DA General Orders 54, 1969, pertaining to TET Counteroffensive Campaign, is amended to add: "4th Battalion, 3d Infantry".

5. Paragraph 3, Section II, DA General Orders 83, 1968, pertaining to Vietnam Advisory Campaign, as reads, "5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), Headquarters", is amended to read, "5th Special Forces Group (less detachments)".

6. Paragraph 3, Section III, DA General Orders 83, 1968, pertaining to Vietnam Defense Campaign, as reads, "5th Special Forces Group, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Companies A, B, C, D and Signal Company", is amended to read, "5th Special Forces Group".

7. Paragraph 3, Section III, DA General Orders 83, 1968, pertaining to Vietnam Defense Campaign, is amended to add:

"1st Battalion, 503d Infantry"

"2d Battalion, 503 Infantry"

8. Paragraph 3, Section IV, DA General Orders 83, 1968, pertaining to Vietnam Counteroffensive Campaign, is amended to delete:

"2d Infantry, 1st Battalion"

"8th Infantry, 2d Battalion"

"52d Infantry, Company C"

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9. Paragraph 3, Section IV, DA General Orders 83, 1968, pertaining to Vietnam Counteroffensive Campaign, is amended to add: "1st Battalion, 503d Infantry".

10. Paragraph 3, Section V, DA General Orders 83, 1968, pertaining to Vietnam Counteroffensive Phase II Campaign, is amended to add: "205th Aviation company".

By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

W. C. WESTMORELAND,
General, United States Army,
Chief of Staff.

Official:

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

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