

General Orders }  
No. 45 }

HEADQUARTERS  
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
Washington, D.C., 16 July 1969

E X T R A C T

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION (ARMY).-- Awards

Section  
I-3

\* \* \* \* \*  
5. Award of the Presidential Unit Citation (Army) by the President of the United States of America to the following units 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 Richard Nixon on 16 June 1969, 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 (ARMY)

FOR EXTRAORDINARY HEROISM

TO THE FOLLOWING UNITS OF THE 13TH AVIATION

BATTALION:

HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT

114TH AVIATION COMPANY

121ST AVIATION COMPANY

221ST AVIATION COMPANY

82ND MEDICAL DETACHMENT

80TH TRANSPORTATION DETACHMENT

167TH TRANSPORTATION DETACHMENT

544TH TRANSPORTATION COMPANY

28TH SIGNAL DETACHMENT

257TH SIGNAL DETACHMENT

277TH SIGNAL DETACHMENT

325TH SIGNAL DETACHMENT

5TH QUARTERMASTER DETACHMENT

53RD QUARTERMASTER DETACHMENT

62ND QUARTERMASTER DETACHMENT

5TH DOOR GUNNER DETACHMENT

7TH DOOR GUNNER DETACHMENT  
12TH DOOR GUNNER DETACHMENT

AND

COMPANY A, 101ST AVIATION BATTALION

UNITED STATES ARMY

The foregoing assigned and attached units of the 13th Aviation Battalion, United States Army, distinguished themselves by gallantry in action while engaged in military operations against a hostile force on 27-28 August 1965 in Chuong Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. On 27 August 1965, the units were deployed against the Viet Cong situated in heavily wooded tree lines bordering canals known for their use as Viet Cong supply routes about 15 miles north of Vi Thanh. Elements of the 21st Division, supported by the 114th Aviation Company and Company A, 101st Aviation Battalion, sought to strike a crippling blow against a Viet Cong Battalion in the area. During the first day of action, eight helicopter assaults were placed into landing zones in proximity to Viet Cong forces by the 13th Aviation Battalion and attached units. In constant action for a day and a half, the crews of the troop carrier and armed helicopters consistently braved determined enemy resistance in order to accomplish their mission. Although opposed by such intense ground fire that thirteen of the original sixteen armed helicopters were eventually rendered inoperable and three were shot down, the armed helicopters made repeated low-level attacks which frustrated the frequent enemy attempts to overrun the pinned down units and finally resulted in the withdrawal of the Viet Cong. The armed ships continued their rocket and machinegun attacks far into the night to prevent the Viet Cong from mounting attacks on the outnumbered friendly forces. Meanwhile, under the perils of constant enemy fire, heavy rain squalls, and darkness, troop carrier helicopters accomplished hazardous medical evacuation and desperately needed ammunition resupply missions. Despite the vigilance of the friendly ground forces, the continued armed ship attacks, and flare drops, the Viet Cong managed to penetrate the lines in the early morning. Due to the extraordinary efforts of the battalion's maintenance units, aircraft under the operational control of the 13th Aviation Battalion were available at 0800 hours the next day to press the fight again and lift the battered elements of the friendly forces out of the field and back to the staging area. The determined devotion to duty, esprit de corps, and countless acts of individual and collective heroism displayed by members of the 13th Aviation Battalion under extremely hazardous and arduous conditions are in keeping with the proudest traditions of the military service. The unselfish and conspicuously heroic actions of the members of the 13th Aviation Battalion during the Battle of Dan Chi 157 contributed materially to this important victory over the Viet Cong, and reflect great credit on the 13th Aviation Battalion and attached units, the United States Army and the United States of America.

\* \* \* \* \*



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 (ARMY)  
FOR EXTRAORDINARY HEROISM  
TO THE FOLLOWING UNITS OF THE 13TH AVIATION BATTALION:  
HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT  
114TH AVIATION COMPANY  
121ST AVIATION COMPANY  
221ST AVIATION COMPANY  
82ND MEDICAL DETACHMENT  
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167TH TRANSPORTATION DETACHMENT  
544TH TRANSPORTATION COMPANY  
28TH SIGNAL DETACHMENT  
257TH SIGNAL DETACHMENT  
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325TH SIGNAL DETACHMENT  
5TH QUARTERMASTER DETACHMENT  
53RD QUARTERMASTER DETACHMENT  
62ND QUARTERMASTER DETACHMENT  
5TH DOOR GUNNER DETACHMENT  
7TH DOOR GUNNER DETACHMENT  
12TH DOOR GUNNER DETACHMENT  
AND TO  
COMPANY A, 101ST AVIATION BATTALION  
UNITED STATES ARMY

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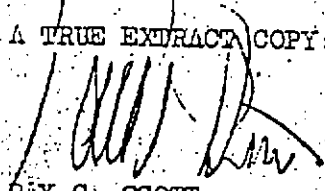
By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

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

Official:

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

A TRUE EXTRACT COPY:



RAY C. SCOTT  
CW4, USA  
Asst AG  
HQ 1st Avn Bde APO 96384

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