

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 81 }

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C., 14 September 1951

DISTINGUISHED UNIT CITATION—Citation of units----- Section I
MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION—Awards----- Section II

I. DISTINGUISHED UNIT CITATION.—As authorized by Executive Order 9396 (sec. I, WD Bul. 22, 1943), superseding Executive Order 9075 (sec. III, WD Bul. 11, 1942), citation of the following units in the general orders indicated is confirmed in accordance with AR 260-15 in the name of the President of the United States as public evidence of deserved honor and distinction. The citations read as follows:

1. The *3d Battalion, 32d Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division*, and the following attached units:

2d platoon, heavy mortar company, 32d infantry regiment

3d platoon, medical company, 32d infantry regiment

Liaison team, headquarters battery, 48th field artillery battalion

Forward observation team, battery C, 48th field artillery battalion

are cited for outstanding performance of duty and extraordinary heroism in action against the armed enemy in the vicinity of Hill 902 and Kuangchidong, Korea, on 28 April 1951. On that date at 0250 hours, an enemy attacking force of undetermined strength struck a heavy blow against the perimeter of Company K. By 0400 hours, the attack had reached a savage intensity and it was estimated that an entire enemy battalion had concentrated its forces in a break-through attempt in this company's sector on Hill 902. By 0455 hours, the right flank of the company had been penetrated by the sheer weight of the attacking force, and the situation became critical. A break-through at that point would have crippled friendly operations in the entire sector of the front. Men of Company K clung doggedly to their positions, slashing counterattacks into the enemy's superior numbers. Company I, outpostting Hills 610 and 680, was attacked on Hill 680 by an estimated enemy force numbering over 400. The enemy storming the hill from three sides was repulsed in his repeated banzai attacks. In an outpost action unparalleled in any campaign, Company I not only blunted the assault of the numerically superior attacking force but, at 1030 hours, launched a vicious counterattack into the enemy's midst. At 0530 hours, when the right flank of Company L came under attack, the enemy hit a veritable stone wall. Troops of Company L clung stubbornly to their positions, battling fiercely. In 30 minutes the assaulting force had not only been stopped but had been beaten off. The machine guns, mortars, and recoilless rifles of Company M engaged the enemy in a manner that will remain exemplary in the history of the role of heavy-weapons companies in the Korean campaign. Gunners remained in positions until guns were destroyed or the enemy assault had been stopped. Hundreds of enemy dead littering the approaches were mute proof of the accuracy, foresight, and battle effectiveness of Company M. The outstanding valor of the entire *3d battalion* at a time when other units were falling back under the ponderous force of a powerful enemy drive was inspirational to hard-pressed United Nations forces and prevented a break-through that might well have rendered the positions of friendly forces in the entire sector untenable. The *3d battalion, 32d Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division*, and attached units displayed such gallantry, determination, and esprit de corps in accomplishing their mission under extremely difficult and hazardous conditions as to set them apart and above other units participating in the action.

*Amended by
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1952*

The extraordinarily heroic conduct of the members of these valiant units reflects great credit on themselves and the military service of the United States (*General Orders 575, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 2 July 1951.*)

2. The *72d Tank Battalion, 2d Infantry Division*, is cited for extraordinary heroism and outstanding performance of duty against an armed enemy in the vicinity of Yongsan and Changnyong, Korea, during the period 31 August to 3 September 1950. The battalion was assigned the mission of supporting the 9th and 23d Regimental Combat Teams in their defense zone along the east bank of the Naktong River. On the night of 31 August, the enemy began crossing the river in force at several places and by 0600 hours on 1 September had managed to overrun friendly infantry positions. The *72d Tank Battalion* moved forward and engaged the enemy with machine-gun and tank-cannon fire in a well-executed, delaying action that permitted infantry and artillery units time to establish new defensive positions in the vicinity of Yongsan. Often the tank crews had to actually fire on each other with their small-arms fire to kill the enemy swarming over the tanks. The crisis came that evening at 1700 hours when the division commander ordered the battalion to hold at all cost. Stragglers augmented friendly positions so that at dawn on 2 September, when the enemy made repeated banzai attacks into the positions, he was repulsed with heavy losses. At dawn, the battalion launched an attack into and west of Yongsan and in the Changnyong area which forced the enemy to spread out and commit his reserves. The speed, fury, and surprise of this attack completely demoralized the enemy, causing him to abandon his equipment and positions. By 1400 hours, all units were on their assigned objectives. Hurling back repeated attacks made by the enemy throughout the night of 2-3 September, the *72d Tank Battalion* was able to hold this position until the next day, when reinforcements arrived. The decisive denial to the enemy of the important Changnyong-Yongsan-Miryang road prevented him from obtaining his goal, a flanking penetration of the allied perimeter between Taegu and Pusan, which, if successful, could have rolled up the entire allied defense line. This cost the enemy an estimated 1,800 casualties and considerable equipment. The *72d Tank Battalion, 2d Infantry Division*, displayed such gallantry, determination, and esprit de corps in accomplishing its mission under extremely difficult and hazardous conditions as to set it apart and above other units participating in the action and reflect great credit on its members and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 562, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 19 July 1951.*)

II. MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION.—By direction of the Secretary of the Army, under AR 260-15, the Meritorious Unit Commendation is awarded to the following units of the United States Army for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service during the periods indicated. The citations read as follows:

1. The *2d Special Services Platoon* is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in Korea in support of combat operations during the period 22 November 1950 to 30 June 1951. Throughout this period during the Korean campaign, despite performing under the most adverse conditions and the loss of key personnel and equipment, the *2d Special Services Platoon* provided entertainment with such a high degree of professional skill that they materially contributed to sustaining the high morale of this command. The enthusiastic services rendered by this platoon went far beyond

those required of a platoon of this type. "Operations Kapers," in which this platoon was cast, voluntarily remained in forward areas and was repeatedly enacted to insure that as many as possible could enjoy this relaxing entertainment. The *2d Special Services Platoon* displayed such outstanding devotion and superior performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart and above other units with similar missions. The zeal, discipline, and determination exemplified by members of this platoon reflect great credit on themselves and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 550, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 16 July 1951.*)

2. The *4th Field Hospital* is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in Korea in support of combat operations during the period 2 October 1950 to 1 May 1951. Since its arrival in Korea on 25 September 1950, this unit has provided surgical and medical treatment and hospitalization for more than 25,354 patients. Its primary mission was to perform as a 400-bed hospital, but the large stream of patients doubled that at various times. Problems such as inadequate transportation and the unusually large influx of casualties were handled expeditiously. The personnel of this unit have consistently performed their various tasks with outstanding efficiency and cheerful thoroughness, resulting in exemplary medical service and the saving of many lives. The *4th Field Hospital* displayed such outstanding devotion and superior performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart and above other units with similar missions. The professional ability and high medical standards set by the members of the *4th Field Hospital* reflect great credit on themselves, the Army Medical Service, and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 550, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 16 July 1951.*)

3. The *7th Medical Battalion, 7th Infantry Division*, is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in Korea in support of combat operations during the period 11 September 1950 to 11 March 1951. Operating under extremely adverse conditions, coupled with difficult and hazardous roads through mountainous terrain, the *7th Medical Battalion* maintained three separate clearing stations and provided patient evacuation over a geographical area of approximately 240 miles. This unit was constantly menaced by guerrilla bands. Maintenance of vehicles, both ambulance and 2½-ton trucks, which were in constant 24-hour use, presented an ever mounting task, which was met efficiently and capably by the battalion's maintenance section with such superior results that not one vehicle was lost because of mechanical failure and deficiency. Procurement of medical and general supplies and the resupply of the units over widely scattered geographical sites were achieved in a superior manner. All members of the battalion worked tirelessly to render close medical support. The *7th Infantry Division* was able to retain in its ranks fighting men who but for the initiative and vigor of the *7th Medical Battalion* would have swollen the casualty lists during the bitter winter campaigns. The *7th Medical Battalion, 7th Infantry Division*, displayed such outstanding devotion and superior performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart and above other units with similar missions. The meritorious conduct and determination of its members reflect great credit on themselves, the Army Medical Service, and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 641, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 14 August 1951.*)

4. The *Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 7th Transportation Medium Port, 2d Logistical Command (C)*, is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in support of combat operations in Korea during the period 1 September 1950 to 28 February 1951. Immediately upon its arrival in Korea, this unit was assigned the all important tasks of operating the port of Pusan with the primary mission of direct logistical support of the United Nations forces. Although confronted with inadequate harbor facilities, insufficient personnel, and material handling equipment, this unit, by sheer determination, discharged a record amount of essential cargo for the hard-pressed United Nations forces. As the United Nations forces withdrew to the Pusan perimeter, this unit established a close-in defense plan contributing toward the defense of Pusan. When the United Nations forces mounted their offensive in late September 1950, the port was responsible for handling thousands of troops and a record tonnage of essential cargo, which were expeditiously moved to our advancing forces. Later, when the United Nations forces were forced to withdraw again, this unit performed a magnificent role in the evacuation of personnel from northern ports. The *Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 7th Transportation Medium Port, 2d Logistical Command (C)*, displayed such outstanding devotion and superior performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart and above other units with similar missions. The determination, efficiency, and esprit de corps of the members of this company reflect great credit on themselves, the Transportation Corps, and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 660, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 22 August 1951.*)

5. The *62d Engineer Topographic Company (Corps)* is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service in Korea in support of combat operations during the period 9 October 1950 to 31 May 1951. Throughout this period, the *62d Engineer Topographic Company* supplied the Eighth United States Army with projects ranging from full-scale terrain models for Operation Zebra to multicolored maps and overlays, photo interpretation uncontrolled mosaics, and photo maps. They also performed road reconnaissance and survey work on both Operations Albany and Zebra and provided outstanding survey work for the 1st Field Artillery Observation Battalion. Lithographic projects number well over 400, with 2,000,000 lithographic impressions. All problems of supply and maintenance were overcome by the superior professional prowess of officers and men of this organization, resulting in fulfillment of all assigned missions in a superior manner. The *62d Engineer Topographic Company (Corps)* displayed such outstanding devotion and superior performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart and above other units with similar missions. The efficiency, zeal, and determination of the members of this company reflect great credit on themselves, the Corps of Engineers, and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 546, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 14 July 1951.*)

6. The *377th Transportation Truck Company* is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in Korea in support of combat operations during the period 26 September 1950 to 25 March 1951. This unit participated in the Inchon invasion and, within 24 hours after landing, engaged immediately in port clearance in an around-the-clock operation. Later, the company again furnished close support to X Corps, assisting it materially in accomplishing its mission of driving to the Yalu River. Despite enemy

ambushes, subzero temperatures, extremely hazardous and difficult conditions, and heavy combat losses of personnel and equipment, the unit responded willingly to assist in the extrication of friendly forces from the Chosin Reservoir area and the evacuation of Hungnam. During the period cited, this unit transported 19,557 passengers and 22,821 tons of cargo over distances totaling 387,412 miles. The *377th Transportation Truck Company* displayed such outstanding devotion and superior performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart and above other units with similar missions. The superior conduct and efficiency under combat conditions of every member of this unit reflect great credit on himself, the Transportation Corps, and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 499, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 3 July 1951.*)

7. The *550th Engineer Map Depot Detachment* is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in Korea in support of combat operations during the period 16 November 1950 to 31 July 1951. Throughout this period, this unit supplied the Eighth United States Army and all attached units with full map coverage of the entire battle zone. On occasions, air drops of critically needed maps were successfully made to the divisions. The men of this organization worked cheerfully, enthusiastically, and diligently in order to keep units supplied and to replenish the depot's stock. Two forward map depots were set up by the *550th Engineer Map Depot Detachment* which were completely mobile and kept in operation immediately behind the combat units. All problems of issue and supply were overcome by the superior prowess of the officers and men of this organization, resulting in the fulfillment, in a superior manner, of all assigned missions. The *550th Engineer Map Depot Detachment* displayed such outstanding devotion and superior performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart and above other units with similar missions. The efficiency, zeal, and determination of the members of the *550th Engineer Map Depot Detachment* reflect great credit on themselves, the Corps of Engineers, and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 660, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 22 August 1951.*)

8. The *593d Transportation Traffic Regulation Detachment (Rail)* is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in Korea in support of combat operations during the period 1 October 1950 to 15 May 1951. During this period, the detachment directly controlled the flow of traffic over several hundred miles of railroad, operating under extremely difficult conditions. Directing rail traffic through rail transportation offices that at one time extended from Pusan to Sinanju, this unit performed in such an outstanding manner that vital quartermaster, engineer, and ordnance supplies and equipment, critically needed to support United Nations troops, were transported with a minimum of delay. This unit, through its diligence and perseverance, overcame the problems created by the language barrier and lack of trained personnel, and regulated the flow of rail traffic in such a superior manner that the tonnage transported showed an increase from 205,074 short tons in October 1950 to 466,550 short tons in the month of April 1951. The *593d Transportation Traffic Regulation Detachment (Rail)* displayed such outstanding devotion and superior performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart and above other units with similar missions. The outstanding meritorious achievements of the members of this unit reflect great credit on themselves, the Transportation Corps, and the military service of the United States. (*General*

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Orders 651, Headquarters Eighth United States Army, Korea, 18 August 1951.)

9. The *630th Engineer Light Equipment Company* is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in Korea in support of combat operations during the period 1 November 1950 to 30 April 1951. This company was confronted with combat hazards, extreme cold weather which hampered operations, and the difficulties of a long supply line. The company constructed two major C-47 airfields in the Hambung-Hungnam area in November 1950, widened roads for two-way traffic in the X Corps area, and constructed six C-47 airstrips in record time from Kyongju to Chechon to support X Corps tactical operations. This company supported the Eighth United States Army and X Corps supply program by construction work in rail yards at Chechon and by construction of ammunition supply points in Chechon. This most versatile company maintained many miles of roads and constructed many miles of new roads during the period and assisted other engineer units in engineer operations by support with equipment, operators, and technical advice. Such work was a vital factor in opening and maintaining routes of communication, both highway and air, which contributed immeasurably to supply support of X Corps combat operations. The *630th Engineer Light Equipment Company* displayed such outstanding devotion and superior performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart and above other units with similar missions. The result of the company's accomplishments exemplifies the effectiveness of a well-organized force and their achievements reflect great credit on the unit, the Corps of Engineers, and the Military service of the United States. (*General Orders 660, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 22 August 1951.*)

10. The *705th Counter Intelligence Corps Detachment* is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in Korea in support of combat operations during the period 26 September 1950 to 25 June 1951. This detachment was originally established as a port team, with the mission of counterintelligence coverage of the port of Inchon, Seoul, Chinnampo, and all adjacent areas. When the tactical situation forced a complete withdrawal of all the aforementioned areas, the detachment reverted to an area-type detachment, with the mission of counterintelligence coverage of Taejon, Taegu, Chongju, Chunju, and all adjacent areas. During this period, in addition to carrying out routine counterintelligence missions, personnel of the detachment established and supervised the operation of refugee screening points, where over 1,000,000 refugees were screened for detection and apprehension of enemy espionage agents and other subversive persons. The unit interrogated approximately 10,000 prisoners of war for information of counterintelligence interest. The missions outlined above were performed despite the large zone of responsibility, which normally requires a much larger detachment, and adverse communications and transportation facilities. The *705th Counter Intelligence Corps Detachment* displayed such outstanding devotion and superior performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart and above other units with similar missions. The determination of purpose and meritorious achievements of the personnel of the detachment reflect great credit on themselves, the Counter Intelligence Corps, and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 651, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 18 August 1951.*)

11. The *Signal Service Company, (VHF), 8035th Army Unit*, is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in Korea in support of combat operations during the period 8 August 1950 to 8

February 1951. Although organized in Japan for the specific purpose of operating fixed very high frequency radio stations, this company was rushed into combat to provide tactical very high frequency communications for the Eighth United States Army. Despite the severe handicap of not having been trained or equipped for such a mission, this company surpassed all expectations and provided vital communications between Eighth United States Army and its subordinate units. The nature of very high frequency communications required installation of small radio stations on remote mountain tops. The small teams operating these radio relay sites frequently were the object of guerrilla attacks, in which they acquitted themselves well. Inasmuch as this small company was not equipped for tactical operations, it was handicapped by shortages of transportation, shelter, and logistical supplies. In sweltering heat and freezing gales, these radio stations were moved, set up, operated, and moved again. Against such hazards and discomforts, this company maintained superior communications for the Eighth United States Army only through use of the most ingenious field expedients and courageous perseverance. The *Signal Service Company (VHF), 8035th Army Unit*, displayed such outstanding devotion and superior performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart and above other units with similar missions. The meritorious conduct of the members of this unit reflects great credit on themselves, the Signal Corps, and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 621, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 6 August 1951.*)

12. The *Signal Service Company (VHF), 8036th Army Unit*, is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in Korea in support of combat operations during the period 2 July 1950 to 2 January 1951. Although organized in Japan for the specific purpose of operating fixed very high frequency radio stations, this company was rushed into combat to provide tactical very high frequency communications for the Eighth United States Army. Despite the severe handicap of not having been trained or equipped for such a mission, this company surpassed all expectations and provided vital communications between Eighth United States Army and its subordinate units. The nature of very high frequency communications required installation of small radio stations on remote mountain tops. The small teams operating these radio relay sites frequently were the object of guerrilla attacks, in which they acquitted themselves well. Inasmuch as this small company was not equipped for tactical operations, it was handicapped by shortages of transportation, shelter, and logistical supplies. In sweltering heat and freezing gales, these radio stations were moved, set up, operated, and moved again. Against such hazards and discomforts, this company maintained superior communications for the Eighth United States Army only through use of the most ingenious field expedients and courageous perseverance. The *Signal Service Company (VHF), 8036th Army Unit*, displayed such outstanding devotion and superior performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart and above other units with similar missions. The meritorious conduct of the members of this unit reflects great credit on themselves, the Signal Corps, and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 621, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 6 August 1951.*)

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

OFFICIAL:

WM. E. BERGIN
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

J. LAWTON COLLINS
Chief of Staff, United States Army