

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 108 }

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C., 12 December 1952

DISTINGUISHED UNIT CITATION—Citation of units----- Section I
MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION—Awards----- 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 220-315 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 *Colombian Battalion* is cited for outstanding performance of duty and extraordinary heroism in action against the enemy in the vicinity of Sonbyok, Korea, during the period 12 October to 22 October 1951. On 12 October, assaulting elements of the battalion, supported by friendly artillery, moved forward in an attack against known enemy strong points. The foe, disregarding the staggering losses which such an action would inflict upon them, sent large bodies of troops through the artillery fire to meet the friendly battalion and engage it in a bitter firefight. As wave after wave of the enemy continued to charge forward, it became evident that the numerically superior foe might completely smother the small friendly force. Consequently, the battalion disengaged and established a defense line which successfully smashed repeated suicidal hostile attacks. The following day, friendly patrols encountered a large hostile force and the battalion immediately launched a determined assault. So fierce was the friendly attack that the numerically superior hostile force was driven back until the battalion had secured several objectives of vital tactical importance. Forming a new defense line, the friendly troops beat off continuous counter-attacks despite repeated enemy mortar barrages of merciless intensity. With an adamant line of resistance established, the battalion engaged in a bitter struggle to take several thousand yards of some of the most fiercely contested territory to be sought in the Korean conflict. For several days and nights the battle flared in sporadic bursts, with first the determined friendly battalion and then the numerically superior foe pressing the attack. At last the enemy, apparently disheartened by the unwavering singleness of purpose with which the small band of friendly infantrymen pursued their objective, began to waver. As the battalion moved forward with relentless determination, the hostile troops retreated in disorder and the area was secured. The *Colombian Battalion* displayed such matchless courage and outstanding aggressiveness in accomplishing its hazardous mission as to set it apart from and above other units participating in similar actions. The extraordinary heroism, remarkable combat effectiveness, and esprit de corps exhibited by the members of this battalion reflect great credit on themselves and are in keeping with the most esteemed traditions of the military profession. (*General Orders 618, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 15 October 1952.*)

2. The *Kagnew Battalion, Imperial Ethiopian Expeditionary Force to Korea*, is cited for outstanding performance of duty and extraordinary heroism in action against the enemy in the vicinity of Sam-hyon, Korea, during the period 16 September to 22 September 1951. Throughout the day and night of 16 September, the battalion, occupying defensive positions in close proximity to a large hostile force, dispatched a series of probing patrols in an effort to gather information as to the disposition of the enemy. Several contacts were made and, in each

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instance, the enemy engaged were either killed or wounded. Finally an enemy force was observed preparing positions on the slope of a commanding terrain feature, and the battalion immediately sent two reinforced squads to assault the hill. Fighting with great determination, the friendly troops battled their way up the slope and drove the enemy from their positions with heavy casualties. With the objective secured, observers, utilizing their new vantage point, discovered feverish enemy activity on adjacent slopes and called for an air strike and artillery and mortar fire. After the initial bombardment, assaulting elements of the battalion hit the positions in a whirlwind attack, engaged the foe in hand-to-hand combat, and inflicted exceptionally heavy casualties upon the enemy. Maneuvering with singular skill, the members of the battalion hit the hostile line at its weakest segment, hammered repeatedly until a breach was effected, and poured into the enemy entrenchments. As the foe fell back, confused and demoralized by the swiftness of the assault, the friendly troops secured the strategic area. The Kagnew Battalion, Imperial Ethiopian Expeditionary Force to Korea, displayed such superlative effectiveness in accomplishing its mission as to set it apart from and above other units participating in the action. The extraordinary heroism, determination of purpose, and magnificent fighting spirit of the members of this battalion reflect great credit on themselves and are in keeping with the most esteemed traditions of the military profession. (General Orders 619, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 15 October 1952.) Amended by Ser. III DA GO # 69 1953.

II. MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION.—By direction of the Secretary of the Army, under AR 220-315, the Meritorious Unit Commendation is awarded to the following units of the United States Army and the Republic of Korea Army for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service during the periods indicated. The citations read as follows:

1. The 1st Company, 101st Engineer Combat Battalion, 1105d Engineer Combat Group, Republic of Korea Army, is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in the support of combat operations in Korea during the period 15 August 1951 to 19 February 1952. This company was charged with the supervision of over 8,000 unskilled civilian laborers employed in widening, ditching, repairing, and resurfacing the main supply road from Hamchang to Chungju, from Chungju to Changhowon-ni, and from Chungju to Mokkedong, Korea, a total distance of approximately 100 miles. Despite the myriad, seemingly insurmountable obstacles caused by an acute shortage of modern equipment and a rapid turn-over of civilian personnel, which necessitated the constant training and supervision of unskilled workers, this company consistently carried out its duties in an exemplary manner. Utilizing, with the utmost ingenuity, indigenous tools and improvised material handling devices, the company made countless fills, constructed an entire new system of drainage ditches, and built, repaired, or extended hundreds of culverts. Much of the construction was carried out through solid rock in extremely mountainous terrain, necessitating continuous blasting and drilling. Operating with a bare minimum of equipment, the company demonstrated great ingenuity and resourcefulness in handling explosives and in removing the materials resulting from such excavations. Hampered by the necessity for guarding constantly against attacks by guerrillas, the members of this company nevertheless displayed a selfless devotion to duty in carrying out their assigned tasks. No obstacles were allowed to stand in the way of the successful accomplishment of their mission. As a

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result of the great technical skill, high standard of excellence, and ingenious application of available facilities demonstrated by this company, the main supply road was transformed from a narrow, winding, often impassable trail into an all-weather, two-lane military road of great strategic value. The resourcefulness in the face of critical shortages, determination of purpose, and singular ability to surmount the most formidable obstacles displayed by this company proved a significant contribution to the cause of the United Nations in its struggle for peace and freedom in Korea. The *1st Company, 101st Engineer Combat Battalion, 1103d Engineer Combat Group, Republic of Korea Army*, displayed such outstanding devotion to duty in the performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart from and above other units with similar missions. The determination, esprit de corps, and undeviating devotion to duty exhibited by the members of this company reflect great credit on themselves and the military service of the Republic of Korea. (*General Orders 494, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 27 August 1952.*)

2. The *11th Evacuation Hospital (Semimobile)* is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in support of combat operations in Korea during the period 2 May 1951 to 1 June 1952. Throughout this important phase of hostilities, the *11th Evacuation Hospital (Semimobile)* operated with unmatched efficiency under the most extreme difficulties, maintaining an enviably high standard of medical and surgical service to combat troops and to units located in its zone of operation. Displaying resourcefulness, outstanding ability, and tireless devotion to duty, the members of this hospital handled vast numbers of patients while simultaneously constructing their own housing with tentage and prefabricated buildings. Of the 17,000 patients cared for by the hospital, approximately 55 percent returned to duty, and the mortality rate remained less than 1 percent. The superior skill of the hospital's personnel earned them the respect and admiration of all those having knowledge of their outstanding work and materially furthered the cause of the United Nations in Korea. The *11th Evacuation Hospital (Semimobile)* displayed such outstanding devotion to duty in the performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart from and above other units with similar missions. The teamwork, esprit de corps, and steadfast determination of purpose displayed by the members of this hospital reflect great credit on themselves and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 604, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 6 October 1952.*)

3. The *13th Engineer Combat Battalion (second award)* is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in support of combat operations in Korea during the period 1 September 1951 to 29 February 1952. During the United Nations Command's second winter campaign, this unit operated in temperatures consistently below zero over the roughest type of terrain but, despite these difficulties, the support which it rendered to combat units was of such unvarying excellence that it earned a reputation for efficiency which is unsurpassed. The construction of both roads and tramways to mountain top positions permitted the uninterrupted flow of supplies to front line units, and the building of tank and self-propelled gun emplacements on commanding terrain greatly enhanced the tactical position of the United Nations troops. The numerous other engineering feats performed by the members of this battalion consistently elicited the highest possible praise from the support troops who were constantly inspired by the enthusiasm and self-assur-

ance with which seemingly insurmountable obstacles were approached by the members of this unit. The *13th Engineer Combat Battalion* displayed such outstanding devotion to duty in the performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart and above other units with similar missions. The outstanding technical proficiency, esprit de corps, and tireless devotion to duty exhibited by the members of this battalion reflect great credit on themselves and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 467, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 16 August 1952.*)

4. The *55th Military Police Company* is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in support of combat operations in Korea during the period 24 November 1950 to 30 September 1952. Shortly after this company's arrival in Korea, the division to which it was attached was encircled by the enemy. The company played an important part in the division's subsequent break-through and withdrawal by acting as a traffic regulating group to insure the uninterrupted movement of essential vehicular traffic. Later, the company patrolled and supervised the flow of traffic in two large cities. At this time the members of the company, maintaining constant vigilance, recovered and returned to proper supply channels well over 1 million dollars' worth of Government property. The *55th Military Police Company* displayed such outstanding devotion to duty in the performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart from and above other companies with similar missions. The esprit de corps and determination of purpose exhibited by the members of this company reflect great credit on themselves and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 684, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 9 November 1952.*)

5. The *106th Ordnance Heavy Maintenance Company* is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in support of combat operations in Korea during the period 1 July 1951 to 31 July 1952. Assigned the mission of processing and repairing combat vehicles and artillery and performing higher echelon maintenance on small-arms and fire-control instruments, this company consistently carried out its exacting duties in an exemplary manner. Despite adverse working conditions, the company's highly trained personnel exploited every potential to the utmost to insure the expeditious and continuous flow of essential arms and equipment to combat troops. Exercising ingenuity and resourcefulness, the company made adaptations which increased the fire power of mechanized equipment and manufactured essential parts despite a lack of facilities and a shortage of materials. In addition, its members processed tens of thousands of small arms, combat vehicles, and artillery pieces, constructed buildings and inclosures, and performed services which were far beyond the scope of their normal duties. The *106th Ordnance Heavy Maintenance Company* displayed such outstanding devotion to duty in the performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart from and above other units with similar missions. The outstanding technical proficiency, willingness to assume additional responsibilities, and steadfast determination of purpose displayed by the members of this company materially furthered the cause of the United Nations in Korea and reflect great credit on themselves and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 604, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 6 October 1952.*)

6. The *131st Transportation Truck Company* is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in support of combat

operations in Korea during the period 1 January to 30 June 1952. Charged with the mission of furnishing logistical support to two divisions and one corps, plus elements of other United Nations forces, this company, operating over treacherous mountain terrain under the most extreme weather conditions, consistently carried out its exacting duties in a superior manner. During this period, the members of the company transported thousands of tons of vitally needed supplies and equipment and over 10,000 troops a total distance of more than one-half million miles. Most notable of the troop movements in which the company played a vital part was an operation in which two complete divisions exchange their front-line positions. This operation involved hauling troops and supplies over miles of hazardous terrain, and was carried out with great success despite formidable obstacles. The *131st Transportation Truck Company* displayed such outstanding devotion to duty in the performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart from and above other units with similar missions. The resourceful utilization of existing facilities, esprit de corps, and high standard of efficiency exhibited by the members of this company materially furthered the cause of the United Nations in Korea and reflect great credit on themselves and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 552, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 16 September 1952.*)

7. The *207th Preventive Medicine Survey Detachment* is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in support of combat operations in Korea during the period 1 September 1951 to 31 August 1952. Throughout this period, this detachment successfully completed assignments which normally would have required the services of at least three such organizations. Travelling thousands of miles throughout the combat zone, the members of the detachment collected specimens which contributed materially to the success of the United Nations preventive medicine program. In a pioneer effort, the detachment's personnel searched out and collected the organisms responsible for hemorrhagic fever, even though they realized that they were coming into direct contact with the infectious materials of an often fatal disease for which there was no known cure. By streamlining its techniques, the detachment more than doubled the amount of material processed monthly by its laboratory. In addition, it performed many special missions, the successful completion of which required work of the most painstaking and skillful nature. The *207th Preventive Medicine Survey Detachment* displayed such outstanding devotion to duty in the performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart from and above other units with similar missions. The outstanding ability and determination of purpose displayed by the members of this detachment reflect great credit on themselves and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 684, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 9 November 1952.*)

8. *Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 231st Transportation Truck Battalion* (second award) is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in support of combat operations in Korea during the period 1 February to 31 August 1952. Responsible for coordinating and supervising transportation truck companies charged with rendering logistical support to three corps, this company consistently performed its intricate duties in an exemplary manner. Displaying the utmost resourcefulness, its members overcame formidable obstacles to keep the battalion's vehicles rolling and meet all operational commitments. The company played a vital part in a maneuver

which necessitated the planning and supervision of more than 1,000 round trips for a total of over 1 million passenger miles and almost 80,000 ton miles in less than 2 weeks. The company's enviably high standard of efficiency earned for its members the unqualified praise of all those having knowledge of their superior performance and materially furthered the cause of the United Nations in Korea. *Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 231st Transportation Truck Battalion*, displayed such outstanding devotion to duty in the performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart from and above other units with similar missions. The remarkable technical proficiency, esprit de corps, and steadfast determination of purpose exhibited by the members of this company reflect great credit on themselves and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 670, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 2 November 1952.*)

9. The *329th Communication Reconnaissance Company (Intelligence)* is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in support of combat operations in Korea during the period 6 December 1951 to 22 October 1952. Charged with a mission of extreme tactical importance, this company carried out its intricate assignment in an exemplary manner. When valuable technical equipment became inoperative because of adverse weather conditions in the field, the members of the company, displaying great resourcefulness, ingeniously developed workable expedients which made possible the equipment's continued successful employment. Handicapped by a critical shortage of specialist personnel, the company nevertheless performed its duties with such vigor that its mission was accomplished with maximum efficiency at all times. The company's high standard of excellence and ability to overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles greatly enhanced the position of the United Nations Command as it pressed its battle for peace and freedom in Korea. The *329th Communication Reconnaissance Company (Intelligence)* displayed such outstanding devotion to duty in the performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart from and above other units with similar missions. The keen judgment, constant dependability, and unwavering determination of purpose displayed by the members of this company reflect great credit on themselves and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 670, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 2 November 1952.*)

10. The *504th Transportation Truck Company* is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in support of combat operations in Korea during the period 1 March to 31 August 1952. Responsible for transporting troops and material in direct support of front-line United Nations units, this company consistently carried out its assignment in an exemplary manner despite formidable obstacles. Often required to drive for long periods of time over treacherous roads through guerilla-infested territory, the members of the company worked tirelessly to insure the expeditious transportation of critically needed supplies and personnel. Despite a shortage of trained technicians and lack of necessary parts, the company maintained its vehicles in a superior manner at all times. The company's constant resourcefulness and high standard of excellence earned for its members the respect of all those having knowledge of their superior performance. The *504th Transportation Truck Company* displayed such outstanding devotion to duty in the performance of difficult tasks as to set it apart from and above other units with similar missions. The esprit de corps and determination of purpose displayed by the members of this company reflect great credit on themselves and the military service of

the United States. (*General Orders 679, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 7 November 1952.*)

11. The *519th Military Police Battalion* is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in support of combat operations in Korea during the period 1 November 1950 to 31 December 1951. Despite the most adverse conditions, this unit operated with maximum efficiency in carrying out its multifarious responsibilities and achieving its many assigned missions. This battalion successfully integrated Republic of Korea police with United Nations military police in many operations to supplement lacking trained personnel and to qualify local Korean authorities in the governing of the civilian population. Many of the methods devised by the battalion to improve operational efficiency of police units in the combat zone were adopted by other units throughout Korea. During the withdrawal from Pyongyang, this battalion was instrumental in effecting an orderly vehicular evacuation of the city and with guiding approximately 1 million refugees to the south. The members of this organization earned the highest praise for the hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of Government property they recovered, the exemplary manner in which they maintained both military and civilian security, and the noteworthy reduction which they effected in vehicle accident rates. The *519th Military Police Battalion* displayed such outstanding devotion to duty in the performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart and above other units with similar missions. The outstanding ability, esprit de corps, and conscientious devotion to duty exhibited by the personnel of this battalion reflect great credit on themselves and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 467, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 16 August 1952.*)

12. *Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 520th Signal Base Depot*, is cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in support of combat operations in Korea during the period 1 January to 31 July 1952. Charged with providing signal equipment for all United Nations units in Korea, this company consistently carried out its assignment in an exemplary manner. With the tactical situation continually changing and the requirements of United Nations forces constantly increasing, the company expeditiously modified its supply procedures in order to resupply the units which it served in a minimum of time. Because of the rapidly developing tactical situation, it became necessary to expand facilities and to relocate thousands of signal items. Despite the magnitude of their tasks, the members of this company, through tireless effort and exceptional ingenuity, maintained an adequate and continuous flow of vitally needed supplies to combat units. *Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 520th Signal Base Depot*, displayed such outstanding devotion to duty in the performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart from and above other units with similar missions. The determination, outstanding ability, and esprit de corps exhibited by the members of this company materially furthered the cause of the United Nations in Korea and reflect great credit on themselves and the military service of the United States. (*General Orders 552, Headquarters, Eighth United States Army, Korea, 16 September 1952.*)

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY :

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The Adjutant General

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Chief of Staff, United States Army

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