

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 13

HEADQUARTERS
 DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
 WASHINGTON, DC, 22 May 74

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I. THE PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION (ARMY). 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 21 February 1974, 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
 158TH AVIATION BATTALION, 101ST AVIATION GROUP
 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION, UNITED STATES ARMY
 AND THE FOLLOWING ASSIGNED UNITS:
 HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY
 COMPANIES A, B, C, AND D
 159TH TRANSPORTATION CORPS DETACHMENT
 168TH TRANSPORTATION CORPS DETACHMENT
 169TH TRANSPORTATION CORPS DETACHMENT
 AND THE
 273RD TRANSPORTATION CORPS DETACHMENT

The 158th Aviation Battalion and assigned units distinguished themselves by extraordinary heroism in action against a hostile force in Southeast Asia during the period 8 February to 24 March 1971. The unit conducted combat assaults and resupply missions deep into enemy territory in support of Army of the Republic of Vietnam forces. The initial airlift into the concentrated enemy stronghold in the area around the Ho Chi Minh trail resulted in the discovery of one of the most intensified hostile forces ever encountered in the Vietnam war. The enemy troop movement and resupply network was well fortified and anti-aircraft weapons, .51 caliber machine guns and a multitude of individual weapons. The valorous aircrews of the 158th Aviation Battalion flew mission after mission through barrages of enemy fire. Each assault and extraction was challenged by an intense fusillade of fire from the North Vietnamese Army. Through determination and unparalleled skill, members of the 158th Aviation Battalion accomplished each mission and added greatly to the success of Operation LAMSON 719. The selfless and unremitting support rendered by the units stands as an example of indomitable spirit and dedication to the counterinsurgency effort of the Free World. The men of the 158th Aviation Battalion and its assigned units displayed extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty which are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States.