PERMANENT ORDER 366-16

31 December 2012

578th Engineer Battalion
42d Engineer Company (18 February 2012 to 7 September 2012)
642d Engineer Company
842d Engineer Company
887th Engineer Company
1022d Engineer Company (6 November 2011 to 8 August 2012)

Announcement is made of the following award:

Award: Meritorious Unit Commendation
Period of service: 6 November 2011 to 7 September 2012
Authority: AR 600-8-22, paragraph 7-15
Reason: For exceptionally meritorious service. During the period 6 November 2011 to 7 September 2012, the 578th Engineer Battalion and the cited units displayed exceptionally meritorious service in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The units' dynamic and fluid management of multiple large construction projects throughout two battle areas was critical to the success of Operation Devil Hammer. The Forward Support Company of the 578th Engineer Battalion was the primary source of transportation of construction equipment and material for the operation, performing the workload of a fully configured transportation company. The 42d Engineer Company allowed much needed freedom of maneuver, detecting and eliminating improvised explosive devices throughout 5,000 kilometers of supply routes. The 642d Engineer Company rapidly transitioned from their horizontal construction configuration to that of a clearance company with most of their missions occurring in the areas most densely populated with insurgents. During the harsh winter, the 842d Engineer Company partnered with the Afghan National Army Engineers completing numerous projects at the most remote locations in support of Operation Devil Hammer. The 887th Engineer Company quickly shifted their configuration from horizontal construction to their route clearance mission and provided essential freedom of maneuver by clearing over 3,191 kilometers of supply routes. The 1022d Engineer Company completed numerous construction projects on short notice under heightened risk during the harsh winter, including the upgrade of a company-size combat outpost into a full-sized forward operating base to support three infantry battalions. The contributions of the 578th Engineer Battalion and the cited units bring great credit upon the 411th Engineer Brigade, Joint Task Force Empire, United States Forces Afghanistan and the United States Army.
Format: 320

Additional Instructions: This order serves as official notification that a unit award has been approved for the organization(s) listed above and will serve as authority for eligible
Soldiers to update their records and wear the award. The award is still subject to final confirmation in Department of the Army General Orders. Official verification of a specific unit's entitlement to display the award in the form of an appropriate streamer on its flag or guidon rests with the U.S. Army Center of Military History (CMH), which is also responsible for determining official unit Lineage and Honors for MTOE organizations. CMH will use this permanent order to authorize the manufacture of an appropriate decoration streamer for any organization clearly entitled to display the award. The streamers will then be manufactured and sent to the U.S. Army Human Resources Command for automatic distribution to the units concerned. It is not the responsibility of HRC to replace streamers that are lost or damaged. Please refer to AR 840-10 for further guidance regarding the responsibilities of the unit concerning the display, care and disposition of the streamers.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

ELISA M. ROBINSON
CW4, AG
Deputy Chief, Awards and Decorations Branch

DISTRIBUTION:
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