September 3, 2010

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDER, U.S. ARMY HUMAN RESOURCES COMMAND, ATTN: AHRC-PDP-A, 200 STOVALL ST, SUITE 3S67, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22322

SUBJECT: Request for the 300th Armored Field Artillery Battalion to Participate in the Presidential Unit Citation Awarded to First Marine Division (Reinforced) for Service in Korea during the Period 21 April 1951 to 25 September 1951

After considering your request and the recommendations of the Commandant of the Marine Corps and the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals contained in attachment (1), I hereby approve the inclusion of the 300th Armored Field Artillery (AFA) Battalion as a participating unit in the Presidential Unit Citation awarded to First Marine Division (Reinforced) for the period 21 April 1951 to 25 September 1951.

When the subject Presidential Unit Citation (PUC) was awarded by Secretary of the Navy Charles S. Thomas in 1956, specific Army and Marine Corps units were identified as participating in the award. A presumption of regularity existed with regard to how that list of participating units was determined. However, that presumption of regularity is overcome by newly discovered evidence that indicates that some units on the list were either misidentified or erroneously included.

After thorough review of the documentation you submitted, as well as other information discovered by the Department of the Navy (DON), I have concluded that the 300th Armored Field Artillery (AFA) Battalion (Bn) did play an important role in the combat actions for which the award was made. The investigation and review did not uncover any logical basis for not including the 300th AFA Bn.

I request that the Department of the Army to expedite the process of concurring with this inclusion and updating the official honors of this unit. On behalf of the DON, please convey my gratitude and admiration for the sacrifices made by the brave soldiers of the 300th AFA Bn and the significant contribution that unit made to the success of our operations in Korea during 1951.

Attachments:
As Stated