PERMANENT ORDER 161-16

10 June 2013

Troop A, 11th Armored Cavalry
Company A, 2d Battalion, 8th Cavalry

Announcement is made of the following award:

Award: Presidential Unit Citation
Period of service: 26 March 1970
Authority: AR 600-8-22, paragraph 7-13
Reason: Troop A, 11th Armored Cavalry and cited unit distinguished themselves on 26 March 1970, by extraordinary heroism and conspicuous gallantry against an armed enemy. After being exhausted by months of continuous combat operations, the cited units volunteered to rescue Company C, 2d Battalion, 8th Cavalry, a 1st Cavalry Division unit, surrounded by an overwhelming enemy force near the Cambodian border, in The Dog’s Face, War Zone C, in Tay Ninh Province of the Republic of Vietnam. Company C was decisively engaged by a battalion of the 272d North Vietnamese Army Regiment which was sheltered in a large, fortified bunker complex. The determined enemy had resisted hours of aerial and artillery bombardment and was expected to destroy or capture the besieged American Soldiers within hours. Company C’s ammunition was low and declining, it was immobilized by numerous casualties, and due to a lack of landing zones, it could not be extracted or relieved. The cited units skillfully penetrated four kilometers of nearly impassable jungle terrain and unhesitatingly mounted a fierce assault directly into the heavily fortified North Vietnamese Army position. Outnumbered three to one, the units attack thrust it into lethal, close-range combat with tenacious defenders concealed in entrenchments under dense foliage. In the face of withering machine gun, automatic rifle, rocket-propelled grenade and recoilless rifle fire, the units courageously forced the enemy away from Company C and inflicted heavy casualties on the North Vietnamese Army battalion, thereby rendering it combat ineffective. At dusk, following the daring assault, the cited units adroitly disengaged from the numerically superior North Vietnamese force and executed a tactically challenging night march to evacuate the dead and wounded. In spite of great sacrifice and against all odds, the units fought with tenacity and fervor that was truly extraordinary. Troop A, 11th Armored Cavalry and cited unit’s exemplary performance of duty is in keeping with the finest traditions of military service and reflects distinct credit upon the units and the United States Army.

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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

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