

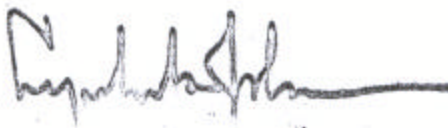
The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the
PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION to the

THIRD MARINE DIVISION (REINFORCED)

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

For extraordinary heroism and outstanding performance of duty in action against the North Vietnamese Army and Viet Cong forces in the Republic of Vietnam from 8 March 1965 to 15 September 1967. Throughout this period, the Third Marine Division (Reinforced), operating in the five northernmost provinces of the Republic of Vietnam, successfully executed its three-fold mission of occupying and defending key terrain, seeking out and destroying the enemy, and conducting an intensive pacification program. Operating in an area bordered by over 200 miles of South China Sea coastline, the mountainous Laotian border and the Demilitarized Zone, the Third Marine Division (Reinforced) successfully executed eighty major combat operations, carrying the battle to the enemy, destroying many of his forces, and capturing thousands of tons of weapons and materiel. In addition to these major operations, more than 125,000 offensive counter guerrilla actions, ranging from squad patrols and ambushes to company-sized search and destroy operations, were conducted in both the coastal rice lands and the mountainous jungle inland. These bitterly contested actions routed the enemy from his well-entrenched positions, denied him access to his source of food, restricted his freedom of movement, and removed his influence from the heavily populated areas. In numerous operations, the Third Marine Division (Reinforced) demonstrated the great efficacy of combined operations with units of the Army of the Republic of Vietnam. In July 1966, the Third Marine Division (Reinforced) moved to the north to counter major elements of the North Vietnamese Army moving across the Demilitarized Zone into the Province of Quang Tri; its units fought a series of savage battles against the enemy, repeatedly distinguishing themselves and, time and again, forcing the enemy to retreat across the Demilitarized Zone. Imbued with an unrelenting combat spirit and initiative and undeterred by heavy hostile artillery and mortar fire, extremely difficult terrain, incessant heat and monsoon rains, the Third Marine Division (Reinforced), employing courageous ground, heliborne and amphibious assaults, complemented by intense and accurate air, artillery and naval gunfire support, inflicted great losses on the enemy and denied him the political and military victory he sought to achieve at any cost. The outstanding courage, resourcefulness and aggressive fighting spirit of the officers and men of the Third Marine Division (Reinforced) in battle after battle against a well-equipped and well-trained enemy, often numerically superior in strength, and the great humanitarianism constantly shown to the peoples of the Republic of Vietnam, reflected great credit upon the Marine Corps and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.



ADDENDUM PAGE TO THE CITATION OF THE PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION
TO THE THIRD MARINE DIVISION (REINFORCED), 8Mar65 to 15Sep67.

UNITS ENTITLED TO THE AWARD AND THE INCLUSIVE DATES OF AWARD

<u>UNITS</u>		<u>INCLUSIVE DATES</u>
HEADQUARTERS BATTALION		6May65 - 15Sep67
THIRD MARINES, HEADQUARTERS COMPANY		12Apr65 - 15Sep67
FIRST BATTALION		8Mar65 - 31Aug65 18Nov65 - 13Feb67
	SLF	4Apr67 - ONLY
SECOND BATTALION		10Apr65 - 18Nov65
	SLF	22Dec65 - 27Feb66 27Feb66 - 9Mar67
	SLF	14Apr67 - 15Sep67
THIRD BATTALION		12May65 - 30Aug66 27Oct66 - 15Sep67
FOURTH MARINES, HEADQUARTERS COMPANY		7May65 - 15Sep67
FIRST BATTALION		7May65 - 15Dec66
	SLF	24Jan67 - 1Apr67 2Apr67 - 15Sep67
SECOND BATTALION		7May65 - 27Oct66 5Jan67 - 15Sep67
THIRD BATTALION		14Apr65 - 23Dec65 18Mar66 - 1Apr67 15May67 - 15Sep67
NINTH MARINES, HEADQUARTERS COMPANY		6Jul65 - 15Sep67
FIRST BATTALION		17Jun65 - 29Sep66
	SLF	8Dec66 - 24Jan67 5Feb67 - 15Sep67
SECOND BATTALION		6Jul65 - 15Sep67
THIRD BATTALION		8Mar65 - 12Jun65 15Aug65 - 7Jan67 1Mar67 - 15Sep67
TWELFTH MARINES, HEADQUARTERS BATTERY		12Jul65 - 15Sep67
FIRST BATTALION		10Apr65 - 15Sep67

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>INCLUSIVE DATES</u>
SECOND BATTALION	12Jul65 - 15Sep67
THIRD BATTALION	7May65 - 15Sep67
FOURTH BATTALION	12Jul65 - 15Sep67
THIRD ENGINEER BATTALION	15Jul65 - 15Sep67
THIRD MOTOR TRANSPORT BATTALION	23Jun65 - 15Sep67
THIRD RECONNAISSANCE BATTALION	7May65 - 15Sep67
THIRD MEDICAL BATTALION	23Jun65 - 15Sep67
THIRD SHORE PARTY BATTALION	15Jul65 - 15Sep67
THIRD TANK BATTALION	12Jul65 - 15Sep67
THIRD ANTI-TANK BATTALION	12Jul65 - 15Sep67
THIRD DENTAL COMPANY	29Jun65 - 15Sep67
FIRST MARINES, HEADQUARTERS COMPANY	17Jan66 - 27Mar66
FIRST BATTALION	28Aug65 - 9Oct66
SECOND BATTALION	10Dec65 - 9Oct66
THIRD BATTALION	28Jan66 - 9Oct66
FIRST FORCE RECONNAISSANCE COMPANY	8Mar65 - 27Apr66 11May66 - 16Nov66
M BATTERY, FOURTH BATTALION, 11th MARINES	14Aug65 - 27Mar66
SECOND BATTALION, FIFTH MARINES (-)	10Oct66 - 22Nov66

