

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. 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

UNITS	INCLUSIVE DATES		
Headquarters Battalion	6May65	-	15Sep67
Third Marines, Headquarters Company	12Apr65	-	15Sep67
First Battalion, Third Marines	8Mar65	-	31Aug65
	18Nov65	-	13Feb67
SLF	4Apr67	-	ONLY
Second Battalion, Third Marines	10Apr65	-	18Nov65
	22Dec65	-	27Feb66
	27Feb66	-	9Mar67
SLF	14Apr67	-	15Sep67
Third Battalion, Third Marines	12May65	-	30Aug66
	27Oct66	-	15Sep67
Fourth Marines, Headquarters Company	7May65	-	15Sep67
First Battalion, Fourth Marines	7May65	-	15Dec66
	24Jan67	-	1Apr67
SLF	2Apr67	-	15Sep67
Second Battalion, Fourth Marines	7May65	-	27Oct66
	5Jan67	-	15Sep67
Third Battalion, Fourth Marines	14Apr65	-	23Dec65
	18Mar66	-	1Apr67
	15May67	-	15Sep67
Ninth Marines, Headquarters Company	6Jul65	-	15Sep67
First Battalion, Ninth Marines	17Jun65	-	29Sep66
	8Dec66	-	24Jan67
SLF	5Feb67	-	15Sep67
Second Battalion, Ninth Marines	6Jul65	-	15Sep67
Third Battalion, Ninth Marines	8Mar65	-	12Jun65
	15Aug65	-	7Jan67
	1Mar67	-	15Sep67
Twelfth Marines, Headquarters Battery	12Jul65	-	15Sep67
First Battalion, Twelfth Marines	10Apr65	-	15Sep67
Second Battalion, Twelfth Marines	12Jul65	-	15Sep67
Third Battalion, Twelfth Marines	7May65	-	15Sep67
Fourth Battalion, Twelfth Marines	12Jul65	-	15Sep67
Third Engineer Battalion	23Jun65	-	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, First Marines	28Aug65	-	9Oct66
Second Battalion, First Marines	10Dec65	-	9Oct66
Third Battalion, First Marines	28Jan66	-	9Oct66
First Force Reconnaissance Company	8Mar65	-	27Apr66
	11May66	-	16Nov66
M Battery, Fourth Battalion, 11 th Marines	14Aug65	-	27Mar66
Second Battalion, Fifth Marines (-)	1Oct66	-	22Nov66
26 th Marines (Fwd)	25Apr66	-	15Apr67
First Battalion, 26 th Marines	28Sep66	-	15Sep67
(SLF)	2Aug66	-	27Sep66
Second Battalion, 26 th Marines	26Aug66	-	15Sep67
Third Battalion, 26 th Marines	9Dec66	-	15Sep67
(SLF)	5Oct66	-	8Dec66
First Battalion, 13 th Marines	23Jul67	-	15Sep67
Battery A, 4 th Battalion, 13 th Marines	2May67	-	15Sep67
Battery K, 4 th Battalion, 13 th Marines	28Apr67	-	15Sep67
1 st Amphibian Tractor Battalion			
Headquarters & Service Company, 1 st AmTrac Battalion	15Jul65	-	15Sep67
Company A, 1 st Amphibian Tractor Battalion	15Jul65	-	15Sep67
Company B, 1 st Amphibian Tractor Battalion	15Jul65	-	15Sep67
LVTH Platoon, 1 st Amphibian Tractor Battalion	15Jul65	-	15Sep67
2d Topographical Company	1Apr65	-	15Sep67
3d Force Reconnaissance Company	25Apr67	-	15Sep67
1 st Provisional 155mm Gun Battery (SP) (Formed in Country)	6Jan67	-	15Sep67
2 nd Provisional 155mm Gun Battery (SP) (Formed in Country)	7Jan67	-	15Sep67
1 st 8" Howitzer Battery (SP)	12Jul65	-	15Sep67
1 st Searchlight Battery	26Jun67	-	15Sep67
1 st Field Artillery Group	29Nov66	-	15Sep67
1 st Platoon, 5 th 155mm Gun Battery	23Jul67	-	15Sep67
1 st Counterintelligence Team	8Mar65	-	31Oct66
1 st Special Security Communications Team	6May65	-	15Sep67
3d Interrogator Translator Team	1Apr66	-	15Sep67
9 th Interpreter Team	21Jul67	-	15Sep67
7 th Interrogator Translator Team	17Apr66	-	15Sep67
17 th Interrogator Translator Team	21Aug67	-	15Sep67
11 th Interpreter Team	21Aug67	-	15Sep67
1 st Platoon, 1 st Armored Amphibian Tractor Company	8Nov66	-	15Sep67
3d Counterintelligence Team	8Mar65	-	31Oct66
1 st 155mm Gun Battery (SP)	1Mar66	-	15Sep67
3d 155mm Gun Battery (SP)	4Aug66	-	15Sep67
Detachment, 15 th Counterintelligence Team	22Nov66	-	15Sep67
1 st Clearance Platoon, Company D, 5 th Medical Battalion	6Jun66	-	15Sep67

