



THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
WASHINGTON

The Secretary of the Navy takes pleasure in presenting the NAVY  
UNIT COMMENDATION to

THIRD RECONNAISSANCE BATTALION (REINFORCED)  
THIRD MARINE DIVISION (REINFORCED)  
FLEET MARINE FORCE

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service in the Republic of Vietnam from 16 September 1967 to 31 July 1968. Assigned the mission of maintaining reconnaissance surveillance for the principal Third Marine Division combat bases at Quang Tri, Phu Bai, Dong Ha, and Khe Sanh, the Third Reconnaissance Battalion (Reinforced) conducted 1185 reconnaissance missions deep in territory infested by the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese Army. Although the battalion's mission was one of primarily clandestine intelligence gatherings, patrols frequently made contact with the enemy. Though lightly armed, the small reconnaissance units accounted for 606 confirmed Viet Cong and North Vietnamese killed and an undetermined number of wounded; and in addition, located, destroyed, and/or captured enemy harboring and training sites, several large caches of rice, numerous weapons, large quantities of ammunition, and many documents. In addition to the tangible items, the intangible effect of the reconnaissance surveillance in preventing the enemy from massing his forces for a large-scale attack cannot be measured. By vigorous efforts, aggressive spirit, and individual acts of daring heroism, the men of the Third Reconnaissance Battalion (Reinforced), achieved significant and tangible results, and in so doing they exemplified the qualities of courage and skill which were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service.



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All personnel attached to and serving with the following units of Third Reconnaissance Battalion (Reinforced) during the period 16 September 1967 to 31 July 1968 or any part thereof are hereby authorized to wear the NAVY UNIT COMMENDATION Ribbon.

Headquarters and Service Company  
Company A  
Company B  
Company C  
Company D  
Company E  
Third Force Reconnaissance Company  
Scout Dog Platoon, Force Logistic Command

*John H. Clague*  
Secretary of the Navy