

3rd Aerospace Rescue & Recovery Group

(1968-09)



472-0040-5-9

# DISPOSITION FORM

(AR 240-11)

REFERENCE OR OFFICE SYMBOL

MACAG-PD

SUBJECT

Vietnamese Meritorious Unit Citation to  
3d Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group

NO THRU - A CofS, JH  
TO CofS

FROM AG

DATE 10 Mar 1968

CMT 1

MAJ Vinton/gmm/2274

1. PURPOSE. To obtain signature of COMUSMACV on letter at Tab A.

2. DISCUSSION.

- a. At Tab B is a letter from General Cao Van Vien requesting comment by COMUSMACV concerning Meritorious Unit Citation for the 3d Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group.
- b. The 3d Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group will be cited for action while in support of Vietnamese Armed Forces since February 1968.
- c. At Tab A is a reply to General Vien's letter indicating acceptance of the award if offered by the Government of Vietnam.

3. RECOMMENDATION. Signature of COMUSMACV on letter at Tab A and return correspondence to this office for dispatch.

2 Incl

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T. B. MANCINELLI  
LTC, USA  
Adjutant General

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
COMUSMACV

General Cao Van Vien  
Chief of Joint General Staff  
Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces  
Saigon, Vietnam

Dear General Vien:

In reply to your letter regarding a Meritorious Unit Citation for the 3d Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group, I am honored to inform you the award will be accepted if offered by the Government of Vietnam.

I wish to express my appreciation for the honor you propose to bestow upon an organization of this command.

Sincerely,

CARLETON W. ABRAMS  
General, United States Army  
Commanding

• APO 4002, 28 April 1969

General CAO VAN VIEN  
Chief of the Joint General Staff,  
Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM  
MINISTRY OF DEFENSE  
JOINT GENERAL STAFF  
REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM ARMED FORCES  
- - -

TO: Commander, US Military Assistance  
Command, Vietnam

# 9591 / TTM/TQT/CP/HCh

SUBJ: Meritorious Citation for the US 3rd Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group

Dear General:

The Joint General Staff, Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces, intends to meritoriously cite the US 3rd Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group before the Armed Forces.

Operating in Vietnam since February 1968, the US 3rd Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group has effectively assisted the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces and Allied Forces in carrying out rescue missions throughout the Republic of Vietnam and north of the 17th parallel with the following excellent results:

- 2,406 men (including 317 Vietnamese) were rescued and evacuated back to their home bases.
- Thousands of medical evacuation flights were carried out; in February 1968, in particular, more than 1,900 wounded servicemen were evacuated by this Group.
- 18 emergency flights were carried out to rescue such aircraft as H34s, C47s, A1s and F.5s of the Vietnamese Air Force that crashed in 1968.

In particular, on 5 May 1968, when a flare-dropping C47 plane of the Vietnamese Air Force crashed about 500 meters from Tan Son Nhut Airfield and burst into flames, the HH43 helicopter crew of the US 3rd Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group, with courage and complete disregard of all danger, saved the flight crew caught in the cockpit of the crashed aircraft, and immediately dressed their wounds and then evacuated them to the station hospital for treatment.

In addition, this Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group regularly conducted and participated in Civic Action activities. It also established liaison with various US charitable organizations to collect material donations and money for the benefit of both Vietnamese war victims and the surviving children of deceased servicemen.


It is respectfully requested that you give us your opinion concerning this intention of the Joint General Staff.

Respectfully,

General CAO VAN VIEN

/Signed and Sealed/

I certify that this is a true translation.

  
WILLIAM A. RUNKLE  
LT USN  
Chief, MACAG Translation Division