

*File Item 4
nil 5 shf*
PCA

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS 3RD AEROSPACE RESCUE & RECOVERY GROUP (MAC)
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96307



REPLY TO
ATTN OF: 3C

17 January 1970

SUBJECT: Vietnamese Gallantry Cross With Palm

TO: All 3ARRGp Units

1. The 3ARRGp, and its subordinate units, was presented the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross (VGC) with Palm on 5 January 1970 during ceremonies at Headquarters VNAF, Tan Son Nhut AB, RVN (see attachment).
2. The translated citation must be processed thru HQ 7AF to HQ USAF for approval before individuals are authorized to wear the VGC. This process should take approximately two or three months. Once this award has been approved for wear by HQ USAF and orders published, it will be announced in AFP 900-2. Personnel will use AFP 900-2 as authority to wear the award and have it entered in the individual's personnel records. In order to wear VGC permanently, personnel must have been physically present for duty before 28 July 1969. All others may wear the award while assigned to 3ARRGp or its units. We will advise when action has been completed by HQ USAF.

Malcolm C. Frazee
MALCOLM C. FRAZEE, Colonel, USAF
Commander

1 Atch
Unit Citation

Cys to: 41ARRWg (41P)
ARRS (ARPD/ARFOI)

3D ARRGp RECEIVES AWARD

Major General Tran Van Minh, Commander, Republic of Vietnam Air Force, attaches the Vietnamese unit citation streamer of the Cross of Gallantry with Palm to the guidon of the 3rd ARRGp. The presentation, made on 5 January 1970 before several hundred VNAF troops in formation at VNAF Headquarters, Tan Son Nhut AB, cited 3rd ARRGp for saving the lives of more than 2,406 people from 8 January 1966 through 28 July 1969. After the unit presentation, General Minh decorated the 3rd ARRGp Commander, Colonel Malcolm C. Frazee, left, and the 3rd ARRGp Vice-Commander, Colonel Frederick V. Schle, Jr., far right facing General Minh.

ORDER NUMBER
253-D/TTM/CL
28 July 1969
HQ., REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM AIR FORCE
APO 4002

UNIT CITATION

THE 3RD AEROSPACE RESCUE & RECOVERY GROUP

The 3rd Aerospace Rescue & Recovery Group is an outstanding US Air Force unit stationed on the Vietnamese Territory. This is the first time this unit has been sent to Vietnam to assist the Armed Forces of the Republic of Vietnam and its Allied Armed Forces throughout the country as well as the area north of the 17th parallel. It has accomplished many significant results as follows:

- Rescued 2,406 people, including 317 Vietnamese who had been brought from the battlefield to the rear.
- Carried out thousands of flights carrying wounded soldiers. In February 1968 alone this group evacuated over 1900 wounded soldiers.
- Implemented 18 missions to rescue a crashed VNAF H-34, C-47, A-1, F-5 aircraft and crew members in 1968. Especially on 5 May 1968 a VNAF C-47 aircraft crashed when it was on a flare dropping mission about 500 meters from Tan Son Nhut Air Base. The aircraft was in flame and was in danger of explosion because of the flares but, with the traditional bravery of the HH-43 crew members of the 3rd Aerospace Rescue & Recovery Group, they rescued all the crew members of the downed plane who still were in the cockpit. These people were given first aid and treatment and were taken to a military dispensary for further treatment.

In addition, this group has organized and participated in Civic Action activities on a regular basis as well as kept in touch with American charitable agencies to collect gifts and cash for distribution among war victims and war widows and orphans.

With the outstanding record as above mentioned, the 3rd Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group has efficiently assisted the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces in the fight against communist aggression.

THIS AWARD INCLUDES:

- Unit citation streamer of Gallantry Cross with Palm to the flag of the 3ARRGp.
- Gallantry Cross with Palm to Colonel Hollon H. Bridges, Commander, 3ARRGp.
- Unit citation emblem of Gallantry Cross with Palm to all the personnel of the 3rd ARRGp on and between 8 January 1966 and 28 July 1969.

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

ORDER NUMBER

52

253-D/TIM/CL

28 JULY 1969

HQ., REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM AIR FORCE

APO 4002

UNIT CITATION

THE 3RD AEROSPACE RESCUE & RECOVERY GROUP

The 3rd Aerospace Rescue & Recovery Group is an outstanding US Air Force unit stationed on the Vietnamese Territory. This is the first time this unit has been sent to Vietnam to assist the Armed Forces of the Republic of Vietnam and its Allied Armed Forces throughout the country as well as the area north of the 17th parallel. It has accomplished many significant results as follows:

- Rescued 2,406 people, including 317 Vietnamese who had been brought from the battlefield to the rear.

- Carried out thousands of flights carrying wounded soldiers. In February 1968 alone this group evacuated over 1900 wounded soldiers.

- Implemented 18 missions to rescue a crashed VNAF H-34, C-47, A-1, F-5 aircraft and crew members in 1968. Especially on 5 May 1968 a VNAF C-47 aircraft crashed when it was on a flare dropping mission about 500 meters from the Tan Son Nhut Air Base. The aircraft was in flame and was in danger of explosion because of the flares but, with the traditional bravery of the HH-43 crew members of the 3rd Aerospace Rescue & Recovery Group, they rescued all the crew members of the downed plane who still were in the cockpit. These people were given first aid and treatment and were taken to a military dispensary for further treatment.

In addition, this group has organized and participated in Civic Action activities on a regular basis as well as kept in touch with American charitable agencies to collect gifts and cash for distribution among war victims and war widows and orphans.

With the outstanding record as above mentioned, the 3rd Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group has efficiently assisted the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces in the fight against communist aggression.

53

THIS AWARD INCLUDES:

- Unit citation streamer of Gallantry Cross with Palm to the flag of the 3ARRGp.
- Gallantry Cross with Palm to Colonel Hollon H. Bridges, Commander, 3ARRGp.
- Unit citation emblem of Gallantry Cross with Palm to all the personnel of the 3rd ARRGp on and between 8 January 1966 and 28 July 1969.

Signed

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