

COMMANDER TASK FORCE CLEARWATER  
Naval Support Activity Det., Cua Viet  
FPO San Francisco, California 96362

CTF CLEARWATER/gg  
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Ser 1  
20 April 1968

From: Commander Task Force CLEARWATER  
To: All Hands Task Force CLEARWATER

Subj: Letter of Commendation

Ref: (a) CG III MAF DNG 281102Z Feb 1968  
(b) CG PCV PHU BAI 141100Z Mar 1968  
(c) CG FMFPAC 100042Z Apr 1968  
(d) COMNAVFORV 140730Z Apr 1968  
(e) CNO 152329Z Apr 1968

1. References (a) through (e), are quoted below as received:

THE OUTSTANDING MANNER IN WHICH BADLY NEEDED SUPPLIES ARE TRANSPORTED THROUGH HOSTILE FIRE TO DONG HA THROUGH THE CUA VIET WATERWAY, AND TO HUE VIA THE PERFUME RIVER IS INDICATIVE OF THE BRAVERY AND SUPERB LEADERSHIP OF ALL THE BOAT CREWS INVOLVED IN THIS CRITICAL COMBAT OPERATION. THE BATTLE AT HUE DEPENDED HEAVILY ON THIS EFFORT, AS DOES SUPPORT OF THE LARGE FORCES IN THE DONG HA AREA. DESPITE CONTINUAL HARRASSMENT BY THE ENEMY AND IN THE FACE OF GRAVE DANGER, YOU PERFORMED MAGNIFICENTLY. TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED I EXTEND A SINCERE "WELL DONE". LTGEN CUSHMAN SENDS.

THE CG, III MAF HAS ASKED ME TO EXTEND HIS SINCERE APPRECIATION AND A "WELL DONE" FOR THE PROMPT AND FORTHRIGHT ACTION TAKEN BY MEMBERS OF YOUR COMMAND FOLLOWING THE LOSS OF CUA VIET TRANSSHIPMENT CAPABILITY DUE TO ENEMY ACTION ON 10 MAR 68.

I WISH TO ADD MY CONGRATULATIONS FOR THE PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE AND THE "CAN DO" ATTITUDE OF ALL CONCERNED. "LTGEN ROSSEN CG PCV".

AS WE LOOK ON THE TACTICAL SUCCESSES OF THE PAST FOUR WEEKS IN VIETNAM, IT IS IMPORTANT TO GIVE FULL CREDIT TO THE RESOLUTE CONDUCT OF THE U. S. NAVY FORCES - ALL OF THEM - THAT KEPT THE LOGISTIC PIPELINE ALIVE. THE CUA VIET AND PERFUME RIVERS ARE CRITICAL TO THE OPERATIONAL SURVIVAL OF OUR FORCES. THE ENEMY KNEW THIS AND, FROM THE START OF THE TET OFFENSIVE, WAS DETERMINED TO CUT THEM BOTH. THAT THEY WERE UNSUCCESSFUL IS LARGELY DUE TO THE GALLANT DETERMINATION OF THE NAVY FORCES OPERATING THE LANDING SHIPS, LANDING CRAFT AND RIVER FIRE SUPPORT CRAFTS. DESPITE THE MOST DETERMINED ENEMY RESISTANCE, AND IN THE FACE OF CONTINUING CASUALTIES, THEY KEPT THE SUPPLIES MOVING. IN DOING SO, THEY ONCE AGAIN EARNED THE GRATITUDE OF THEIR BROTHERS IN THE NAVY-MARINE CORPS TEAM. LTGEN KRULAK.

IT IS WITH GREAT PLEASURE THAT I NOTE YOUR SUCCESS IN KEEPING THE LOGISTIC SUPPORT ROUTES OPEN AND KEEPING TRAFFIC MOVING DURING THE PAST MONTH. THIS COULD BE ACHIEVED ONLY BY APPLYING THE HIGHEST DEGREE OF PROFESSIONALISM WITH UNFALTERING COURAGE AND STRONG DETERMINATION.

THE PERFORMANCE OF YOUR FORCE IN CONTINUING THEIR MISSION AGAINST SUCH STRONG OPPOSITION IS TRULY OUTSTANDING. WELL DONE. .RADM VETH.

IT WAS A PLEASURE TO READ LTGEN KRULAK'S COMMENDATORY COMMENTS IN REF A. THE GALLANT DETERMINATION OF OUR PERSONNEL IN KEEPING THE VITAL LOGISTIC ROUTES OPEN IN THE CUA VIET AND PERFUME RIVERS IS A SOURCE OF GREAT PRIDE TO ME. PLEASE EXPRESS MY PERSONAL APPRECIATION TO ALL HANDS FOR A JOB WELL DONE. T. H. MOORER, ADMIRAL, U. S. NAVY.

2. The service for which this Letter of Commendation is awarded signifies your courage and devotion to duty. Your professional performance greatly contributed to the successful support of United States and Free World Military Forces engaged in maintaining control of the Cua Viet and Perfume Rivers Line of Communications (LOC's).

3. Subordinate Commanding Officers of Task Force CLEARWATER units, and Naval Support Activity, DaNang units, participating in the operations of Cua Viet and the Perfume Rivers LOC's, are requested to append a copy of this letter to all officer fitness reports and all enlisted service records.

  
G. W. SMITH