



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CENTER OF MILITARY HISTORY
103 THIRD AVENUE
FORT LESLEY J. MCNAIR DC 20319-5058

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

AAMH-FPO (600-8-22)

2 May 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Commander, U.S. Army Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command,
Clothing and Heraldry Product Support Integration Directorate, 700 Robbins Avenue,
P.O. Box 57997, Philadelphia, PA 19111-7997

Chief, Awards and Decorations Branch, U.S. Army Human Resources Command,
ATTN: AHRC-PDP-A, 1600 Spearhead Division Avenue, Fort Knox, KY 40122

SUBJECT: Meritorious Unit Commendation (2007-08) [STB, 173d Airborne Brigade Combat Team]

1. Reference U.S. Army Human Resources Command (HRC) Permanent Order 018-06, dated 18 January 2011 [received 1 February 2011].
2. The U.S. Army Center of Military History (CMH) has received information provided by the HRC regarding the unit(s) intended for recognition in this decoration for the period **20 May 2007 to 24 January 2008**. Based on HRC's authorizations, and whenever feasible, CMH is providing official designations for recognized unit(s); and, per its responsibilities under ARs 600-8-22 and 840-10, verifying entitlement to an appropriately inscribed decoration streamer as indicated below. Also indicated is the correct streamer size (if authorized), and authorization for a streamer to be issued with an earned-honor device (i.e., a laurel wreath) which applies only to certain combat arms units. In those cases where the unit designation provided by HRC cannot be verified as belonging to any unit currently listed on the official rolls of the Army (which are maintained by CMH under ARs 870-5 and 220-5), no further action will be taken by CMH and no streamer will be authorized at this time (see final paragraph). The same is true if official authorization for an organizational flag or guidon is unknown. If appropriate, the table below also indicates any unit entitled to a decoration streamer, but which is currently inactive and unavailable to receive a streamer.

PO Designation	Official Designation [See Note Below]	Current Status	Streamer	Inscription
Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 173d Special Troops Battalion	Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Special Troops Battalion, 173d Airborne Brigade Combat Team	Active	Flag	AFGHANISTAN 2007-2008
Company A, 173d Special Troops Battalion	Company A, Special Troops Battalion, 173d Airborne Brigade Combat Team	Active	n/a	n/a
Company B, 173d Special Troops Battalion	Company B, Special Troops Battalion, 173d Airborne Brigade Combat Team	Active	n/a	n/a
Company C, 173d Special Troops Battalion	Company C, Special Troops Battalion, 173d Airborne Brigade Combat Team	Active	n/a	n/a

NOTE: Although no such unit (as identified in the referenced HRC PO) was on the active Rolls of the Army during the recognized period of service, CMH is providing this official designation as an exception to policy. The official designation shown above is based upon the unit's incorrect "common usage" designation, and the award's narrative "reason" (or citation). HRC should inform CMH as soon as possible if it disagrees with this identification.

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3. Since HRC must issue a corrected copy for the permanent order referenced above (in order to correct official designations for recognized units), it may also want to insure that the designation is corrected within the order's citation [reason] paragraph.

4. As indicated above, TACOM is authorized to provide appropriately embroidered decoration streamer(s) to HRC's Awards and Decorations Branch who will make distribution to each authorized unit. Streamer authorization is based solely upon unit recognition information provided by HRC. Therefore, issuance of a streamer at this time does not necessarily confer permanent unit entitlement. Final determination regarding entitlement to display the streamer remains with CMH who will determine each unit's lineage and honors (for MTOE organizations). As with similar War on Terrorism decorations, organic guidon-bearing elements recognized with their battalion (or squadron) headquarters are not authorized to display the honor separately from the battalion's colors. Recognizing the operational conventions of the Army Modular Force designs, however, comparable unit awards earned *separately* by a battalion's organic companies will not pass to the parent battalion's colors or duplicate its honors. In addition, any approved or pending award independently earned by another of the battalion's organic guidon-bearing elements will not be considered a duplication of a battalion (or company) honor and may be displayed on the appropriate company guidon. Where appropriate, these cases are indicated by including months in the streamer inscriptions for the organic guidon-bearing element which has been recognized separately from its parent organization. Furthermore, because there have been significant problems with much of the source material (particularly period of service dates), this memorandum should not be used to officially confirm whether or not a unit participated in any particular action or deployment. Period of service dates have been provided by HRC, and CMH assumes that any recognized dates not reflecting "periods of service pre-dating the submission of the award nomination" or recognition duplicating other unit awards were approved as an exception to policy. Deployment and mobilization dates (correct or otherwise) which may conflict with regulatory guidance for this decoration will also be considered as an exception to policy. HRC, however, may later alter the recognized period of service dates to meet regulatory criteria. Any questions regarding this award, such as adding other units to the list above, should be addressed to HRC's Awards and Decorations Branch [hrc.tagd.awards@conus.army.mil].

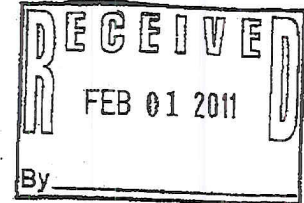
5. This memo (or subsequent communication from this office) constitutes the only authorized verification of entitlement for this award's decoration streamers. Organizations with questions regarding issues specific to this memo may contact the POC for this action through CMH-Awards@conus.army.mil.



STEPHEN E. EVERETT
Chief, Organizational History Team,
Force Structure and Unit History Branch



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY HUMAN RESOURCES COMMAND
1600 SPEARHEAD DIVISION AVENUE
FORT KNOX, KY 40121-5743



PERMANENT ORDERS 018-06

18 January 2011

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 173d Special Troops
Battalion

Company A, 173d Special Troops Battalion

Company B, 173d Special Troops Battalion

Company C, 173d Special Troops Battalion

Announcement is made of the following award:

Award: Meritorious Unit Commendation

Period of service: 20 May 2007 to 24 January 2008

Authority: AR 600-8-22, paragraph 7-15

Reason: For exceptionally meritorious performance. During the period 20 May 2007 to 24 January 2008, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 173d Special Troops Battalion and its subordinate units displayed exceptionally meritorious service in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The unit conducted vital counterinsurgency operations in order to disrupt insurgent forces and created a stable environment in the Nangarhar Province. The unit's efforts directly contributed to the development and training of an effective security force and resulted in a more sustainable socioeconomic system. The dedication and outstanding performance of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 173d Special Troops Battalion and its subordinate units is in keeping with the finest traditions of military service and reflects great credit upon the unit, the 173d Airborne Brigade Combat Team, Combined Joint Task Force-101 and the United States Army.

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Additional Instructions: This order serves as official notification that a unit award has been approved for the organization(s) listed above and will serve as authority for eligible Soldiers to update their records and wear the award. The award is still subject to final confirmation in Department of the Army General Orders. Official verification of a specific unit's entitlement to display the award in the form of an appropriate streamer on its flag or guidon rests with the U.S. Army Center of Military History (CMH), which is also responsible for determining official unit Lineage and Honors for MTOE organizations. CMH will use this permanent order to authorize the manufacture of an appropriate decoration streamer for any

PERMANENT ORDERS 018-06, U.S. Army Human Resources Command, 1600
Spearhead Division Avenue, Fort Knox, KY 40121 18 January 2011

organization clearly entitled to display the award. The
streamers will then be manufactured and sent to the U.S. Army
Human Resources Command for automatic distribution to the units
concerned.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

for *A. Lawrence*
STEWART L. STEPHENSON, JR.
LTC, AG
Chief, Awards and Decorations
Branch

DISTRIBUTION:

Commander, 173d Airborne Brigade Combat Team, Unit 31401, APO AE
09630 (1)
CMH, 103 Third Ave., Fort McNair, DC 20319 (1)
Permanent Orders Set (1)
AHRC-PDP-A (1)
File (1)