



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**U.S. ARMY HUMAN RESOURCES COMMAND**  
200 STOVALL STREET  
ALEXANDRIA VA 22332-0470

PERMANENT ORDERS 258-41

15 September 2009

656th Signal Company

Announcement is made of the following award:

Award: Meritorious Unit Commendation

Period of service: 24 February 2009 to 8 September 2009

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

Reason: For exceptionally meritorious service. During the period 24 February 2009 to 8 September 2009, the 656th Signal Company displayed exceptionally meritorious service in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The unit provided exceptional communications support to the 56th Stryker Brigade Combat Team by installing, operating, maintaining, and improving communications infrastructure. Subsequently, the unit was vital to the success of 56th Stryker Brigade Combat Team and their Iraqi counterparts as they executed operations in accordance with the security agreement. Further, the unit contributed immeasurably to the overall mission of providing a safe, free, and democratic Iraq. The 656th Signal Company's outstanding performance of duty is in keeping with the finest traditions of military service and reflects distinct credit upon the unit, Multi-National Division-Baghdad, and the United States Army.

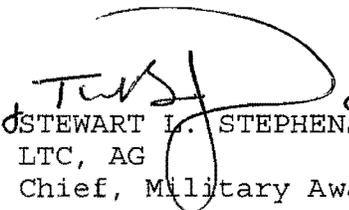
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Additional Instructions: This order serves as official notification that a unit award has been approved for the organization(s) listed above and will serve as authority for eligible Soldiers to update their records and wear the award. The award is 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

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organization clearly entitled to display the award, and the completed streamers will be distributed by the Human Resources Command.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

  
STEWART I. STEPHENSON, JR.  
LTC, AG  
Chief, Military Awards Branch