



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY HUMAN RESOURCES COMMAND
1600 SPEARHEAD DIVISION AVENUE
FORT KNOX, KY 40122

PERMANENT ORDERS 119-11

29 April 2013

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 160th Signal Brigade
Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 25th Signal Battalion
278th Signal Company
550th Signal Company
580th Signal Company
Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 54th Signal Battalion
228th Signal Company
519th Signal Company
56th Signal Company
581st Signal Company
3d Signal Center

Announcement is made of the following award:

Award: Meritorious Unit Commendation

Period of service: 1 September 2010 to 30 September 2011

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

Reason: For exceptionally meritorious service. During the period 1 September 2010 to 30 September 2011, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 160th Signal Brigade and the cited units provided strategic network communications capabilities in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom and New Dawn. The units served as the only strategic communications network service provider during the drawdown of United States Forces in the Iraq Joint Area of Operations after nearly a decade. The brigade provided Battle Command communication while operating, maintaining and defending the largest and most complex Army command with an operation base C4 network in an austere combat environment. The units impacted every operation and exercise in the United States Central Command Theater and directly supported every major command including the Command Field Headquarters, Multinational Forces-Iraq and International Security Armed Forces/Combined Field Command-Afghanistan. The brigade staff synchronized and executed Army, Joint and Combined communications requirements throughout the theater providing the critical backbone for Battle Command Systems allowing the Soldier to advise and assist in preparation for transition. As the provider of the main communication hub in Theater, the brigade leveraged the commercial sector to operate and maintain critical communication nodes while freeing thousands of Soldiers to redeploy and refit. The units provided VIP communications for key United States government officials. Throughout a period of incredible instability and exceptionally high operations tempo, the brigade maintained the communications support that enabled the surge in Afghanistan and retrograde operations in Iraq.

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The brigade's impact on the United State's mission accomplishment in Iraq, Afghanistan, Bahrain, Qatar, and Kuwait is immeasurable and historical. The units' outstanding devotion to the mission and superior performance of all mission-essential tasks are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflects great credit upon the 160th Signal Brigade 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 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. It is not the responsibility of HRC to replace streamers that are lost or damaged. Please refer to AR 840-10 for further guidance regarding the responsibilities of the unit concerning the display, care and disposition of the streamers.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:



ELISA M. ROBINSON

CW4, AG

Deputy Chief, Awards and Decorations
Branch