



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HQ, 3RD BRIGADE (SEPARATE), 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION (AIRMOBILE)
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96490

AVDACG

2 October 1971

SUBJECT: Letter of Commendation

THRU: Commanding Officer
229th Assault Helicopter Battalion
3d Brigade (Separate)
1st Cavalry Division (AM)
APO 96490

TO: Commanding Officer
F Battery, 79th Artillery
3d Brigade (Separate)
1st Cavalry Division (AM)
APO 96490

1. The officers and men of F Battery, 79th Artillery (Blue Max) are commended for their superior performance of duty during the recent operation around Fire Support Bases Pace and Katum.
2. During the period 29 September to 1 October 1971, in Tay Ninh Province, Republic of Vietnam, Blue Max flew a record 153 hours in direct fire support to Task Force Garry Owen. The success of the mission is attributable not only to your excellent aircraft maintenance posture, but also to the leadership and professionalism of your flight and ground crews.
3. During the operation Blue Max was tasked with many day and night missions. Task Force Garry Owen road march, medevac, troop air lift, flare, and critical resupply missions were performed in an exemplary manner by the five sections of your command. You accomplished the feat of being 100% mission ready at all times during a high intensity operational environment.
4. A special commendation is made to the aircraft crew which destroyed an enemy indirect fire position near FSB Pace on 30 September 1971, despite the fact that their aircraft was subjected to intense ground to air fire during the mission.
5. The Task Force commander joins me in congratulating the men of BLUE MAX for a job well done. Your actions have been in keeping with the finest traditions of the First Team.

Garry Owen,

Jonathan R. Burton
JONATHAN R. BURTON
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding