

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES IN THE FAR EAST.	
GENERAL ORDERS)	A.P.O. 501
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UNIT CITATION

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9596 (Sec I, Bulletin 22, WD, 1943) superseding Executive Order No. 9075 (Sec III, Bulletin 2, WD, 1942), and Section IV, Circular No. 333, WD, 1943, the following unit is cited by the Commanding General, United States Army Forces in the Far East:

The 503d Parachute Infantry Regiment, with the following attached units:

462d Field Artillery Battalion
3d Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment
Company C, 161st Airborne Engineer Battalion
(Now 161st Airborne Engineer Company)
18th Portable Surgical Hospital (Reinforced)
3d Platoon, Anti-Tank Company, 34th Infantry Regiment.
3d Platoon, Cannon Company, 34th Infantry Regiment
3d Platoon, Company C, 3d Engineer Battalion
Company A, 34th Infantry Regiment
3d Platoon, Company C, 24th Medical Battalion
Detachment, Service Company, 34th Infantry Regiment
Battery A, 950th AAA (AM) Battalion
174th Ordnance Service Detachment (Boat Disposal Squad)
Detachment, 592d Engineer Boat and Shore Regiment
Detachment, 96th Signal Battalion
Detachment, 1st Platoon, 603d Tank Company
Detachment, 592d Joint Assault Signal Company
Detachment, 6th Support Air Party
Combat Photo Unit A, GHQ Signal Section
Combat Photo Unit C, GHQ Signal Section

These units, organized as a task force, distinguished themselves by extraordinary heroism and outstanding performance of duty in action against the enemy from 16 to 28 February 1945. This force was directed to seize the enemy-held island and fortresses of Corregidor, one of the most difficult missions of the Pacific War. A long prepared and fanatical enemy, strongly entrenched in numerous tunnels, caves, dugouts and crevices, awaited the assault in commanding and extensively fortified positions. The small dropping area for parachutists was bordered extensively by sheer cliffs, with resultant variable air currents and eddies; and previous bombings and naval gunfire had cut trees and shrubs close above ground, creating hazardous stakes which threatened to impale descending troops. The approach by sea, through shallow water known to be mined, led to a beach protected by land mines. At 0830 on 16 February, the initial assault was made by parachute drop on terrain littered with debris and rubble. Heavy casualties were sustained. Two hours later the amphibious elements advanced by sea through

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