



COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

The Secretary of the Navy takes pleasure in presenting the
MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION to

3D BATTALION, 3D MARINE (REGIMENT)
3D MARINE DIVISION

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

For meritorious service in actions against enemy forces in Afghanistan during Operation ENDURING FREEDOM from 25 November 2004 to 15 June 2005. During this period, 3d Battalion, 3d Marines deployed to support the Global War on Terrorism while assigned to Combined Joint Task Force-76. The Marines and Sailors of 3d Battalion, 3d Marines (Regiment) participated in hostile actions against determined Al Qaeda and Associated Movement Forces while executing the daunting mission to maintain security, extend Afghan government reach and conduct support operations in a tactical area of responsibility that encompassed six provinces along the volatile border region with Pakistan. The Battalion executed its mission with diligence, esprit de corps and professionalism despite routine small arms fire, improvised explosive devices, and mortar and rocket attacks. At all echelons of the Battalion, attention was focused on the successful accomplishment of the Battalion's mission. In the face of the enemy, the Battalion's unwavering courage and dedication to providing stability for the people of Afghanistan set the stage for the first National Assembly Election in this infant democracy's history. The Battalion supported numerous provincial reconstruction teams to aid in the development of Afghanistan's infrastructure. Humanitarian projects ranged from well construction to security for USAID members in support of their efforts to build roads and hospitals. By their distinctive achievements, unfaltering enthusiasm, and unflinching devotion to duty, the officers and enlisted personnel of 3d Battalion, 3d Marines (Rein) reflected credit upon themselves and upheld the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service.

For the Secretary of the Navy,


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