

HEADQUARTERS  
UNITED STATES MILITARY ASSISTANCE COMMAND, VIETNAM  
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER  
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96222

MACJ03

4 OCT 1967

SUBJECT: Letter of Appreciation

THRU: Commander  
US Naval Forces, Vietnam  
APO 96214

To: Commander  
Task Force 117  
FPO 96601

1. It gives me great pleasure and pride to forward the attached letter from General Cao Van Vien, Chief of the Joint General Staff, RVNAF expressing appreciation for the outstanding results achieved during Operation CORONADO IV.
2. To General Vien's praise, I wish to add my own congratulations, and sincere appreciation to the men of Task Force 117 for an outstanding performance. The determination and dedication to duty shown by the officers and men of Task Force 117 reflect great credit upon themselves and are in the highest tradition of the United States Navy.

W. C. WESTMORELAND  
General, United States Army  
Commanding

CIF-117/111:hd  
1650  
Ser: 54  
19 October 1967

From: Commander Task Force ONE ONE SEVEN  
To: Task Force ONE ONE SEVEN

Subj: Letter of appreciation

Encl: (1) Chief of Joint General Staff RVNAF ltr ser 1433 of 14th  
CHIN 1967 and COMNAVFORV Endorsements thereto.

1. Enclosure (1) is forwarded with pleasure for dissemination to  
All Hands.

*W. C. Wells*  
W. C. WELLS

1650  
Ser 5109  
15 Oct 1967

FIRST ENDORSEMENT on COMUSMACV ltr MACJ03 of 4 OCT 1967

From: Commander U.S. Naval Forces, Vietnam  
To: Commander River Assault Flotilla ONE

Subj: Letters of Appreciation

1. It gives me great pleasure to forward the attached letters of appreciation from General Cao Van VIEN, Chief of Joint General Staff, Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces, and General W. C. WESTMORELAND, Commander U. S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam for the outstanding courage, dedication and professionalism displayed by the member of Task Force 117 during Operation CORONADO IV.
2. The many accomplishments of Task Force 117 have been continually noted as making substantial contributions to the counterinsurgency effort in the Republic of Vietnam. Your actions have been in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.
3. WELL DONE..

K. L. VETH

*cmdr Hesterman*

CWO NR 1847  
P 240100Z JUN 67  
FM CTF ONE ONE SEVEN  
TO TF ONE ONE SEVEN ←

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

MRP OPERATIONS 19-21 JUNE - CONONADO/CONCORDIA

1. ASSEMBLE ALL HANDS AT QUARTERS. CO, SQUADRON COMMANDERS, OINC PERSONALLY READ THE FOLLOWING TO EACH AND EVERY MAN IN THE FORCE:

A. FOLLOWING MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM RADM VETH, COMMANDER NAVAL FORCES VIETNAM:

(1) THE PERFORMANCE AND GALLANTRY OF YOUR MEN DURING OPERATION CONCORDIA WERE A SOURCE OF PRIDE AND GRATIFICATION TO ALL OF US. YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE POSSIBLE BY THE AGGRESSIVENESS, ALAGRITY AND BOLDNESS CONSISTENTLY DISPLAYED BY YOU, YOUR OFFICERS AND MEN. MOBILE RIVERINE OPERATIONS HAVE PROVED TO BE THE POTENT FLEXIBLE FIGHTING TEAM SO VITAL TO THE SUCCESS OF THE CAMPAIGN IN THE DELTA. PLEASE PASS A WELL DONE TO ALL HANDS FOR THE SUCCESS OF CONCORDIA AND MAY YOU HAVE

PAGE TWO UNCLAS E F T O

CONTINUED GOOD HUNTING. RADM VETH SENDS.

B. FOLLOWING MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM GENERAL WEYAND, COMMANDING GENERAL II FIELD FORCE VIETNAM:

(1) PLEASE PASS TO COMODORE WADE WELLS AND COLONEL BILL FULTON MY SINCERE CONGRAGULATIONS ON THE MAGNIFICENT PERFORMANCE OF THEIR GALLANT MEN IN YESTERDAY'S ACTION IN LONG AN PROVINCE. THEIR CRUSHING DEFEAT OF THE 5TH VC BATTALION AND ATTACHED LOCAL VC COMPANIES WILL DO MORE TO RE-ESTABLISH SECURITY FOR THE PEOPLE IN THIS VITAL AREA THAN ANY SINGLE OPERATION PREVIOUSLY CONDUCTED BY OUR FORCES. THE FACT THAT THIS OPERATION BY YOUR MOBILE RIVERINE FORCE WAS CONDUCTED UNDER THE MOST ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS ADDS TO OUR PRIDE IN THE ACTIONS OF THE NAVAL AND ARMY UNITS INVOLVED. WELL DONE.

C. PERSONAL MESSAGE TO ALL HANDS OF TF 117 FROM COMMANDER TASK FORCE 117:

(1) THE PERFORMANCE OF THE BOAT CREWS IN THIS ACTION WAS BY FAR AND AWAY THE VERY BEST. THE DEMONSTRATION OF YOUR PROFESSIONAL COMPETANCE IN OPERATIONS OF YOUR BOATS IN EXTREME VIOLENT COMBAT OPERATIONS IS A SOURCE OF TREMENDOUS

PAGE THREE UNCLAS E F T O

SATISFACTION TO ME. THE FACT THAT AGAIN YOU STOOD TOE TO

TOE WITH THE VC AND SLUGGED IT OUT WITH THEM AND REALLY BEAT THEM INTO THE GROUND IS THE HIGHEST POINT OF OUR TIME IN VIETNAM. OF EQUAL SIGNIFICANCE TO ALL OF US WAS THE WAY IN WHICH YOU SUPPORTED OUR ARMY BROTHERS IN VERY CLOSE QUARTERS. THEIR GRATITUDE WHICH I AM SURE HAS BEEN EXPRESSED TO YOU BY THEM MUST BE OF GREAT SATISFACTION TO ALL OF YOU. WE HAVE AN UNBEATABLE TEAM IN THIS MOBILE RIVERINE FORCE, AND I KNOW THAT WE WILL CONTINUE.

(2) THE SUPPORT TEAM OF OUR MRB SHIPS PERFORMED MAGNIFICENTLY GREATLY EXCEEDING MY EXPECTATIONS. THE HANDLING OF CASUALTIES FROM THE BATTLE FIELD WAS TRULY INSPIRING. THE SUPPLY AND REPAIR SUPPORT ACTUALLY MADE THE OPERATION GO AND KEEP ON GOING.

(3) FOR ME TO OBSERVE ON THE FLAGSHIP THE ORDERLY AND RAPID AND IMAGINATIVE CLOSE SUPPORT AT ALL LEVELS AS THE BATTLE PROGRESSED WAS INDEED A PLEASURE. THERE WAS NO NEED FOR ME TO ISSUE ANY ORDERS - EVERYTHING WENT JUST FINE.

PAGE FOUR UNCLAS E F T O

(4) GENERAL WESTMORELAND VISITED US AT END OF OPERATIONS. HE PERSONALLY REQUESTED THAT I PASS ON TO YOU HIS ADMIRATION FOR YOUR ACTIONS AND THAT THE PERFORMANCE OF THE MRF GREATLY EXCEEDED HIS EXPECTATIONS. AND THAT HE IS COUNTING ON US TO CONTINUE SIMILAR STRIKE OPERATIONS AS HIS MOST POTENT WEAPON IN THE DELTA.

BT

O-00...01...N1...N2...N3...N4...N5...PAO...SWO...CO...A-XO...COMM...  
OPS... CRR11...

TOR: 0539Z/24 JUN 67//ORESTES

WU/THH/SUPVR

UNCLASSIFIED E F T O

210400Z JUN 67

NNNN

General W.C. WESTMORELAND  
Commander US MACV

Dear General WESTMORELAND,

Operation CORNADO IV which was initiated in the area North of Tan An during the period 20 August to 9 September 1967, has recorded noteworthy accomplishments both in the destruction of the enemy and the discovery of numerous weapons and equipment.

Operating in inclement weather and over unfavorable terrain, with coordination and flexibility, the operational forces inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy forces and successfully located and captured a large arms cache.

As chief of the RVNAF Joint General Staff, I wish to extend my deep appreciation and warm congratulations to the officers and men who participated in this operation for their outstanding accomplishments.

Sincerely,

General GAO VAN VIEN  
Chief of Joint General Staff  
RVNAF.