



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

PERMANENT ORDERS 238-03

26 August 2010

Operational Detachment-Alpha 076, 3d Special Forces Battalion,
10th Special Forces Group, 1st Special Forces
(18 October 2002 to 15 May 2003)

3d Special Forces Battalion (less Detachments), 10th Special
Forces Group, 1st Special Forces (22 March 2003 to
15 May 2003)

Detachment, 3d Special Forces Battalion, 10th Special Forces
Group, 1st Special Forces (9 March 2003 to 15 May 2003)

Detachment, 10th Special Forces Group, 1st Special Forces
(1 November 2002 to 15 May 2003)

Announcement is made of the following award:

Award: Valorous Unit Award

Period of service: As listed above

Authority: AR 600-8-22, paragraph 7-14

Reason: For extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy. During the period 18 October 2002 to 15 May 2003, Operational Detachment-Alpha 076 and additional elements comprising the 3d Special Forces Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group, 1st Special Forces displayed extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The unit exhibited extraordinary gallantry, determination and esprit-de-corps in an extremely hazardous unconventional warfare environment by defeating three Iraqi army divisions in northern Iraq. This action severely disrupted the Iraqi I and II Corps, preventing reinforcement of Saddam's forces in southern Iraq and greatly contributing to the rapid overthrow of the Ba'athist regime. Prior to the U.S. invasion of Iraq and with extreme risk involved, operational detachments covertly trained, organized and prepared Kurdish guerrillas (Peshmerga) for eventual combat operations against Saddam's army. Following an extremely dangerous low-level, fixed-wing infiltration over heavily defended Iraqi-held territory in the western desert, hundreds of lightly armed unit operators led thousands of Kurdish Peshmerga in direct combat operations against Saddam Hussein's northern forces. Ultimately, these units liberated the city of Kirkuk and secured the vast oil fields in the north. The battalion simultaneously led thousands of Kurdish Peshmerga in a five-day battle against the Islamic terrorist group Ansar al Islam which resulted in the death or capture of over half of the thousand-man radical group and significantly enhanced northern Iraq's security and safety. Lastly, the unit negotiated the

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trained militant group allied with Saddam Hussein. The outstanding performance of duty exhibited by Operational Detachment-Alpha 076 and the entirety of the 3d Special Forces Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group, 1st Special Forces is in keeping with the finest traditions of military service and reflects distinct credit upon the unit and the United States Army.

Format: 320

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.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

for *A.M. Lawrence, CW2, Asst. Dep. Ch.*
STEWART L. STEPHENSON, JR.
LTC, AG
Chief, Awards and Decorations
Branch