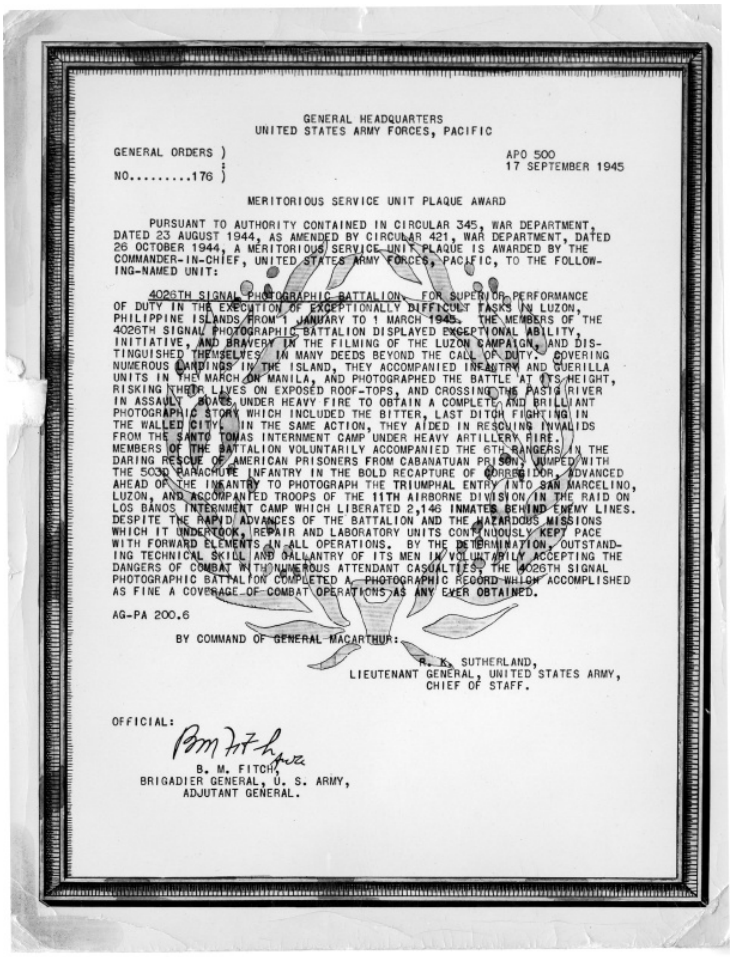
Photo of Army Unit Plaque Award



GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC

GENERAL ORDERS)
NO.....176)

APO 500
17 SEPTEMBER 1945

MERITORIOUS SERVICE UNIT PLAQUE AWARD

PURSUANT TO AUTHORITY CONTAINED IN CIRCULAR 345, WAR DEPARTMENT, DATED 23 AUGUST 1944, AS AMENDED BY CIRCULAR 421, WAR DEPARTMENT, DATED 26 OCTOBER 1944, A MERITORIOUS SERVICE UNIT PLAQUE IS AWARDED BY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC, TO THE FOLLOWING-NAMED UNIT:

4026TH SIGNAL PHOTOGRAPHIC BATTALION. FOR SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF DUTY IN THE EXECUTION OF EXCEPTIONALLY DIFFICULT TASKS IN LUZON, PHILIPPINE ISLANDS, FROM 1 JANUARY TO 1 MARCH 1945. THE MEMBERS OF THE 4026TH SIGNAL PHOTOGRAPHIC BATTALION DISPLAYED EXCEPTIONAL ABILITY, INITIATIVE, AND BRAVERY IN THE FILMING OF THE LUZON CAMPAIGN, AND DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES IN MANY DEEDS BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY. COVERING NUMEROUS LANDINGS IN THE ISLAND, THEY ACCOMPANIED INFANTRY AND GUERILLA UNITS IN THEIR MARCH ON MANILA, AND PHOTOGRAPHED THE BATTLE AT ITS HEIGHT, RISKING THEIR LIVES ON EXPOSED ROOF-TOPS, AND CROSSING THE PASIG RIVER IN ASSAULT BOATS, UNDER HEAVY FIRE TO OBTAIN A COMPLETE AND BRILLIANT PHOTOGRAPHIC STORY WHICH INCLUDED THE BITTER, LAST DITCH FIGHTING IN THE WALLED CITY. IN THE SAME ACTION, THEY AIDED IN RESCUING INVALIDS FROM THE SANTO TOMAS INTERNMENT CAMP UNDER HEAVY ARTILLERY FIRE. MEMBERS OF THE BATTALION VOLUNTARILY ACCOMPANIED THE 6TH RANGERS IN THE DARING RESCUE OF AMERICAN PRISONERS FROM CABANATUAN PRISON, JUMPED WITH THE 503D PARACHUTE INFANTRY IN THE BOLD RECAPTURE OF CORREGIDOR, ADVANCED AHEAD OF THE INFANTRY TO PHOTOGRAPH THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY INTO SAN MARCELINO, LUZON, AND ACCOMPANIED TROOPS OF THE 11TH AIRBORNE DIVISION IN THE RAID ON LOS BANOS INTERNMENT CAMP WHICH LIBERATED 2,146 INMATES BEHIND ENEMY LINES. DESPITE THE RAPID ADVANCES OF THE BATTALION AND THE HAZARDOUS MISSIONS WHICH IT UNDERTOOK, REPAIR AND LABORATORY UNITS CONTINUOUSLY KEPT PACE WITH FORWARD ELEMENTS IN ALL OPERATIONS. BY THE DETERMINATION, OUTSTANDING TECHNICAL SKILL AND GALLANTRY OF ITS MEN IN VOLUNTARILY ACCEPTING THE DANGERS OF COMBAT WITH NUMEROUS ATTENDANT CASUALTIES, THE 4026TH SIGNAL PHOTOGRAPHIC BATTALION COMPLETED A PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD WHICH ACCOMPLISHED AS FINE A COVERAGE OF COMBAT OPERATIONS AS ANY EVER OBTAINED.

AG-PA 200.6

BY COMMAND OF GENERAL MACARTHUR:

R. K. SUTHERLAND,
LIEUTENANT GENERAL, UNITED STATES ARMY,
CHIEF OF STAFF.

OFFICIAL:

B. M. FITCH,
BRIGADIER GENERAL, U. S. ARMY,
ADJUTANT GENERAL.

Description

Meritorious Service Unit Award given to the 4026th Army Signal Photographic Battalion for bravery filming the Luzon campaign and related activities during World War II. Donor: John Paxton

Date(s)
September 17, 1945

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4.25x 5.5 inches Black & White

Keywords Awards

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