



Citation
to accompany the award of the
Joint Meritorious Unit Award
to the
Joint Task Force Operation Assured Response

The Joint Task Force Operation ASSURED RESPONSE distinguished itself by exceptionally meritorious achievement from 8 April 1996 to 12 August 1996. During this period, the Joint Task Force was responsible for the planning, coordination, and execution of the emergency evacuation of thousands of civilians from the chaos of civil war in Liberia and the Central African Republic. Within 24 hours of the initial alert order, the first elements of the Joint Task Force were enroute to the Intermediate Staging Base to establish a headquarters and to make final preparations for evacuation. Over the course of the next 4 months, men, women, and children of all ages, nationalities, and languages were carried to safety in a courteous and efficient manner despite long hours, stressful work conditions, and 90 plus degree temperatures. When fighting among mutinous troops in the Central African Republic's capital city of Bangui threatened US citizens, Joint Task Force Operation ASSURED RESPONSE dispatched a forward liaison cell capable of providing security and evacuating threatened Americans. Their diligent efforts were responsible for the safe evacuation of hundreds of US citizens and third country nationals. Without hesitation, the men and women of Joint Task Force Operation ASSURED RESPONSE met this and all other challenges with success and dispatch in fulfilling the mission. By their exemplary performance of duty, the members of Joint Task Force Operation ASSURED RESPONSE have brought great credit upon themselves, their Service, and the Department of Defense.

Given under my hand this 8th day of October 1996

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "John A. ...", is written over a horizontal line.

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff