Citation

to accompany the award of the

Joint Meritorious Unit Award

to the

Headquarters United States European Command

Headquarters United States European Command distinguished itself by exceptionally meritorious service from 1 September 1989 to 31 August 1991. During this period, the tireless efforts, extraordinary skills, and professional dedication of the entire United States European Command staff directly contributed to the success of a series of crisis and combat operations, both in the role of supported and supporting command. Concurrent with a number of smaller crises which required exhaustive effort and noncombatant evacuation operations, Operations SHARP EDGE, DESERT SHIELD, DESERT STORM, and PROVIDE COMFORT demanded the utmost in time and effort from the entire headquarters staff. That effort resulted in four of the most successful operations in history. SHARP EDGE ensured the safety of United States citizens during a violent civil war in Liberia; DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM, to include Joint Task Force PROVEN FORCE and Joint Task Force PATRIOT DEFENDER, utilized major force structure components from the United States European Command to conduct a classic military operation, and PROVIDE COMFORT was the most successful humanitarian effort in history. Also, during the timeframe of these operations, the European Command area of operation was going through dramatic social, political, and military change. The staff expended extraordinary energies monitoring and adjusting to the historical changes occurring in eastern Europe. Compounded by the almost continuous conduct of crisis operations, the performance of this staff was superb. By their exemplary performance and dedication to duty, the Headquarters United States European Command Staff has brought great credit upon themselves, the Department of Defense and the United States of America.

Given under my hand this 18th day of December 1991

Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff