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 achievement from 1 October 1998 to 30 September 1999. During the most challenging period in Europe and Africa since the end of the Cold War, the Command continued to play a key role in supporting the US leadership in European and African affairs. As the National Command Authorities' most visible presence on those two continents, the Command was involved in a myriad of commitments on a daily basis that spanned the full spectrum of military operations. From peacekeeping to humanitarian relief to combat operations, the Command's contribution to freedom and security in the world far exceeded the boundaries of its 89-country area of responsibility. Through exceptional leadership, foresight and selfless personal commitment, in both contingency planning and execution, as well as management of ongoing programs, the Command's staff succeeded in providing stability in a fragile environment. In addition to numerous ongoing activities, major operations successfully conducted in Europe included: ABLE SENTRY, ALLIED FORCE, ALLIED HARBOUR, BALKAN CALM, DELIBERATE FORGE, EAGLE EYE, FLEXIBLE ANVIL, JOINT FORGE, JOINT GUARANTOR, JOINT GUARDIAN, Kosovo air Verification Mission, SHINING HOPE and SKY ANVIL. Other operations successfully conducted in their area of operations included: AVID RESPONSE, NORTHERN WATCH and Patriot Support to Turkey and SHADOW EXPRESS in Africa. During the Kosovo crisis, the leadership of the United States and Headquarters, United States European Command, galvanized the resolve of the members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization enabling them to successfully compel Serbia to comply with a negotiated settlement. Peace in Kosovo was established without the spread of violence to other Balkan states, an outcome that would not have been possible without the extraordinary effort of the Command. By their exemplary performance of duty, the members of Headquarters, United States European Command, have brought great credit upon themselves, their Service, and the Department of Defense.

Given under my hand this 9th day of December 1999

Henry H. Shelton

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff