

ESSAYONS



Engineers attending Class 60 at the Sergeants Major Academy, during 2009—the “Year of the NCO”. The class is unique because it will be the first where everyone will be promoted upon completion. (Information and photo from MSG Eugene Russell).

19th Engineer Battalion Presented Valorous Unit Award for Service in Vietnam

Headquarters, Department of the Army (HQDA) in Permanent Orders 252–09 dated September 9, 2009, made official the **Valorous Unit Award** for Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 19th Engineer Battalion, for service in Vietnam from July 16th, 1967 to December 31st, 1968.

The unit was recognized for actions against an armed enemy, while displaying extraordinary heroism in support

of military operations in Binh Dinh and Quang Nghai Provinces, Republic of South Vietnam.

The award citation reads in part, “*Despite constant enemy harassment in the form of mining roadways and stationing snipers along key transportation points, the unit worked tenaciously to upgrade and rebuild the road network from Bong Song to Duc Pho. In doing so, the unit transformed the vehicular pass to a Class 31, all-weather road, allowing the transport of critical supplies to the north during severely inclement weather, when previously, the monsoon season would ground aircraft and limit coastal shipping.*”

This HQDA Order (252-09) authorizes any Soldier having served in the unit during the designated period, to update their military records and wear the award as appropriate. Pending final approval by US Army Center for Military History, the unit itself will be authorized to display the award as a streamer on its guidon and flag. When approved, completed streamers will be distributed by the US Army Human Resources Command.

Information provided by Tom Clark, 19th Combat Engineer Battalion Association