



Citation

to accompany the award of the

Joint Meritorious Unit Award

to the

Joint Task Force Assured Lift

Joint Task Force ASSURED LIFT distinguished itself by exceptionally meritorious service while deployed to support peacekeeping operations in West Africa during the period 4 February 1997 to 8 March 1997. The tireless efforts and extraordinary skills displayed by Joint Task Force ASSURED LIFT personnel contributed to the unqualified success of this highly visible operation. Charged with the safe movement of Economic Community of West African States Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) troops from three different countries into war-torn Liberia, operations demanded that each task force member be trained and well prepared for precision evacuation operations. Through aggressive liaison and planning with the host nations' military leaders, as well as Department of State country teams, Joint Task Force ASSURED LIFT was able to rapidly deploy and set up operations in four countries in less than 3 days. As West African countries expanded their deployment requirements, the team developed execution plans to satisfy the requirements of African peacekeeping troops. Through meticulous load planning and optimizing variables required for flight operations, Joint Task Force ASSURED LIFT was able to move over 1,160 troops and over 452 tons of equipment to Liberia in support of African peacekeeping operations. The direct actions of Joint Task Force ASSURED LIFT personnel directly assisted in ensuring regional security and stability. By their exemplary performance of duty, the members of Joint Task Force ASSURED LIFT have brought great credit upon themselves, their Service, the United States European Command, and the Department of Defense.

Given under my hand this 15th day of October 1997

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Henry H. Shelton".

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff