



THE COMMANDANT OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD  
WASHINGTON 20593

JAN 22 1998

The Commandant of the Coast Guard takes pleasure in  
presenting the **COAST GUARD MERITORIOUS TEAM COMMENDATION** to:

**COAST GUARD CUTTER BISCAYNE BAY (WTGB 104)  
BATTERY RECOVERY TEAM**

**for service as set forth in the following**

**CITATION:**

"For exceptionally meritorious service from September 1996 to July 1997 in the extraordinary execution of battery recovery operations at terrestrial sites in Lake of the Woods, Minnesota, and throughout the Straits of Mackinac. From September 30, 1996, to October 3, 1996, a portion of Biscayne Bay's crew completed surveys at 9 sites in and around Lake of the Woods, Minnesota. These efforts are particularly noteworthy because of the remoteness of the location and the fact that approximately 19 batteries, 400 pounds of hazmat debris, and 400 pounds of battery casings were recovered and properly disposed. In July 1997, the crew conducted battery recovery operations on Ile Aux Galets Light and Gull Island Light located in the Straits of Mackinac. This project concluded with the recovery of 830 pounds of hazmat debris that included primary mercury-zinc batteries and a caustic lime bed. In addition to the outstanding terrestrial battery recovery operations that the crew of Biscayne Bay performed, they also supported other Ninth District units and the aquatic battery recovery operation. The Commanding Officer volunteered to conduct focused HAZWOPER training for Station St. Ignace and Coast Guard Cutter Bristol Bay which was essential for the safe completion of the recovery effort. Whether they were actually on-site, providing training to other units, or keeping the vessel operationally ready while other crew members were away, each crew member did their part in assisting the Battery Recovery Program reach completion 3 years ahead of schedule and \$1.75 million under budget. The dedication, pride, and professionalism displayed by the BISCAYNE BAY (WTGB 104) BATTERY RECOVERY TEAM reflect credit upon themselves, their team, and the United States Coast Guard. "

The Operational Distinguishing Device is authorized.

For the Commandant,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. F. McGowan".

J. F. McGOWAN

Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard  
Commander, Ninth Coast Guard District