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FM COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC//G-P//
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SUBJ: SECRETARY'S AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

1. I AM VERY PLEASED AND PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THAT ON 3 NOVEMBER 1994, SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERICO PENA AWARDED THE SECRETARY'S HIGHEST AWARD, THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION GOLD MEDAL FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT, TO THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD.
 2. THE CITATION FOR THE AWARD READS: "FOR EXEMPLARY SERVICE TO THE NATION FROM 1 OCTOBER 1993 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 1994. DURING THIS PERIOD, THE COAST GUARD TRULY LIVED UP TO ITS MOTTO 'SEMPER PARATUS'...ALWAYS READY. THE COAST GUARD SAVED THE LIVES OF THOUSANDS OF MARINERS IN PERIL ON THE HIGH SEAS INCLUDING THE RESCUE OF 56,000 HAITIAN AND CUBAN BOAT PEOPLE DURING THE TUMULTUOUS SUMMER OF 1994. DURING THE SIMULTANEOUS OPERATIONS OF ABLE MANNER, ABLE VIGIL, AND SUPPORT DEMOCRACY, THE RESPONSIVENESS OF THE COAST GUARD PROVIDED THE OPPORTUNITY FOR THE ADMINISTRATION TO IMPLEMENT AN EFFECTIVE NATIONAL SECURITY POLICY. THE COAST GUARD TOOK BOLD AND EFFECTIVE ACTION TO COPE WITH ENVIRONMENTAL DISASTERS, SUCH AS THE DEVASTATING FLOODS, FIRES, AND POLLUTION IN HOUSTON, TEXAS, AND THE GROUNDING OF THE MORRIS J. BERMAN, WHICH THREATENED MASSIVE OIL POLLUTION TO THE BEACHES OF PUERTO RICO. DURING THE MOST SEVERE WINTER IN DECADES, THE COAST GUARD FACILITATED THE UNINTERRUPTED FLOW OF COMMERCE THROUGH UNPRECEDENTED ICE CONDITIONS IN THE GREAT LAKES AND NORTHEAST. THE COAST GUARD FURTHER DISTINGUISHED ITSELF WHEN THE COAST GUARD CUTTER POLAR SEA BECAME THE FIRST U. S. SURFACE VESSEL TO REACH THE NORTH POLE, WHILE COLLECTING INVALUABLE SCIENTIFIC DATA. THROUGHOUT ONE OF THE MOST DEMANDING YEARS IN THE HISTORY OF THE COAST GUARD, THIS UNIQUE AND VITAL ORGANIZATION MAINTAINED AN EXTRAORDINARY MEASURE OF RESPONSIVENESS, PROFESSIONALISM AND SERVICE TO THE AMERICAN PUBLIC. THE OUTSTANDING DEVOTION TO DUTY DISPLAYED BY COAST GUARD MEN AND WOMEN IS HEARTILY COMMENDED AND IS IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE U. S. COAST GUARD AND THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION."
 3. AS A RESULT OF THIS EXCEPTIONAL RECOGNITION, I AM AUTHORIZING COAST GUARD REGULAR, RESERVE, AND AUXILIARY PERSONNEL TO WEAR THE RIBBON BAR WHICH ACCOMPANIES THE DOT GOLD MEDAL. CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES (INCLUDING NAFA) WILL RECEIVE A COMPARABLE PIN.
 4. THE RIBBON BAR WILL RANK IMMEDIATELY AHEAD OF THE COAST GUARD UNIT COMMENDATION IN PRECEDENCE AND WILL BE WORN WITH A GOLD FRAME. THERE IS NO POINT VALUE ASSOCIATED WITH THE AWARD FOR ENLISTED ADVANCEMENTS.
 5. FORMAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AS WELL AS SUPPLY AVAILABILITY AND ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS WILL BE PROVIDED IN A SUBSEQUENT MESSAGE.
 6. I EXTEND MY PERSONAL CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL MEMBERS OF OUR COAST GUARD FAMILY ON RECEIVING THIS MOST PRESTIGIOUS SECRETARIAL AWARD.
- ADMIRAL R. E. KRAMEK SENDS