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FM CCGDONE BOSTON MA//D//
TO ALLCOGARDONE

BT

UNCLAS //N01650//
ALCOGARDONE 011/08

SUBJ: FIRST DISTRICT UNIT AWARD FOR MISSION EXCELLENCE FOR 2ND
QUARTER FY-08, JANUARY TO MARCH 2008

A. CGONEINST 1650. 3

1. I AM PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT CGC PENOBSCOT BAY (WTGB 107) IS THE RECIPIENT OF THE MISSION EXCELLENCE AWARD FOR THE SECOND QTR FY-08.
2. DURING THIS PERIOD, THE CREW OF PENOBSCOT BAY DEMONSTRATED OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE AND EXTRAORDINARY PUBLIC SERVICE. PENOBSCOT BAY COMPLETED 300 HOURS IN SUPPORT OF PORT, WATERWAYS, AND COASTAL SECURITY (PWCS) OPERATIONS AND CIVIL DEFENSE MISSIONS IN NEW YORK HARBOR AND THE HUDSON RIVER. PENOBSCOT BAY COMPLETED 4 COMMERCIAL FISHING VESSEL SAFETY BOARDINGS AND ASSUMED PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR ENFORCEMENT OF A CRITICAL SECURITY ZONE AT THE INDIAN POINT NUCLEAR POWER PLANT. MOST NOTABLY, PENOBSCOT BAY DEPLOYED FOR A 45-DAY INTERNATIONAL ICEBREAKING OPERATION TO ASSIST THE CANADIAN COAST GUARD IN THE ST LAWRENCE SEAWAY. WITH 6 DAYS NOTICE, THE CREW OF PENOBSCOT BAY WORKED AROUND THE CLOCK TO PLAN AND EXECUTE THE FIRST-EVER DEPLOYMENT OF A USCG CUTTER TO OPEN THIS CRITICAL SHIPPING WATERWAY. AFTER A 1500 NAUTICAL MILE TRANSIT THAT INCLUDED A 3-DAY PASSAGE THROUGH SEVERE SUB-ARCTIC ICE CONDITIONS IN THE GULF OF ST. LAWRENCE, PENOBSCOT BAY ARRIVED AT THE ST. LAMBERT LOCK IN MONTREAL. THEY IMMEDIATELY BEGAN OPERATIONS BREAKING THE YEAR'S FIRST NAVIGABLE TRACK THROUGH THE SEAWAY. DESPITE AN UNFAMILIAR AOR, A SIGNIFICANT LANGUAGE BARRIER, AND ICE COVER THAT AT TIMES EXCEEDED 3 FEET IN THICKNESS, THE CREW OF THE PENOBSCOT BAY SAFELY COMPLETED OVER 128 HOURS OF ICEBREAKING OPERATIONS, 9 DIRECT ASSISTS OF ICE-BOUND VESSELS, MAINTENANCE OF OVER 400 NAUTICAL MILES OF ICE TRACK, AND THE BREAK-OUT OF 3 CRITICAL SHORE FACILITIES. THE PROFESSIONALISM, STAMINA, AND TECHNICAL EXPERTISE DEMONSTRATED BY THE CREW OF PENOBSCOT BAY ENSURED THE SAFE PASSAGE OF 67 COMMERCIAL VESSELS THROUGH 7 LOCKS OF THE SEAWAY SYSTEM.
3. BZ TO THE CREW OF CGC PENOBSCOT BAY. YOU HAVE DEMONSTRATED EXTRAORDINARY DEDICATION AND YOU STRENGTHENED A LONG TRADITION OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION BETWEEN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES. BECAUSE OF YOUR HARD WORK AND DEVOTION TO DUTY, THE FIRST DISTRICT CONTINUES TO SET A VERY HIGH STANDARD OF MISSION EXECUTION, OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT. KEEP UP THE GREAT WORK AND SEMPER PARATUS.
4. RADM T. S. SULLIVAN AND BMCJ. E. DOWNEY SEND

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