



THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
WASHINGTON

The Secretary of the Navy takes pleasure in presenting the
MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION to

USCGC BOUTWELL (WHEC-719)

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

For meritorious achievement during the period of 26 February 1972 to 5 March 1972 while deployed to Ocean Station CHARLIE. USCGC BOUTWELL rapidly responded to the sighting of a Soviet nuclear submarine which had surfaced and was in apparent distress northeast of the Grand Banks. BOUTWELL steamed to the stricken unit to offer any possible assistance, remaining in the immediate vicinity of the submarine for more than eight days despite extremely adverse weather, at times of hurricane force. Exposing herself to danger while proffering humanitarian assistance, BOUTWELL provided higher authority with information of a unique and extremely valuable nature regarding the plight of the submarine. By their exceptional professionalism, determination, and resourcefulness throughout this period, the officers and men of USCGC BOUTWELL upheld the highest traditions of the United States Armed Forces.


Secretary of the Navy
(Acting)