



THE COMMANDANT OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD  
WASHINGTON 20593

2 January 1990

The Commandant of the Coast Guard takes pleasure in presenting the COAST GUARD BICENTENNIAL UNIT COMMENDATION to

## THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

for service as set forth in the following

### CITATION:

"The United States Coast Guard is awarded the Coast Guard Bicentennial Unit Commendation for an extraordinary level of service to the government and citizens of the United States for 200 years and in particular from March 1989 through October 1989. During this period in which the Coast Guard also began commemorating its Bicentennial, the country suffered the largest oil spill in U.S. history and the devastation of both Hurricane Hugo and the Loma Prieta Earthquake. All regions and missions required exceptional performance from men and women throughout the Coast Guard to sustain the greatly accelerated tempo of operations. Their response was equal to the challenge. Cutters and aircraft were redeployed to meet rapidly changing demands. Many personnel were transferred away from their home units for extended periods, having to work unusually long hours in the most difficult of circumstances. Those who remained behind also shouldered heavy burdens as they labored to maintain the high level of "routine" services despite the reduced numbers of personnel available. Staff and support personnel also rose to the occasion, exhibiting the flexibility and stamina demanded by the heightened operational tempo. Demonstrating the finest professionalism, skill and dedication, Coast Guard personnel everywhere capably stood watch over the environment, aided and rescued mariners in distress, interdicted tons of poisonous drugs, and ensured cargo moved safely through the Nation's ports. This period was one of the most remarkable in the Coast Guard's 200-year history. For their efforts in this, the Coast Guard's Bicentennial year, the Secretary of Transportation awarded the Coast Guard the Department's Gold Medal for Outstanding Achievement. The devotion to duty and outstanding performance of all the Service's people -- military, civilian, reserve, and auxiliary -- throughout this period, reflect great credit upon the United States Coast Guard and are in keeping with the highest traditions of its military and humanitarian service."

  
P. A. YOST  
Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard  
Commandant