



THE COMMANDANT OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
WASHINGTON 20593
July 14, 1998

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

USCGC BOUTWELL (WHEC 719)
ALAMEDA, CALIFORNIA

for service as forth in the following

CITATION:

"For exceptionally meritorious service from January 1997 to July 1998 in the execution of law enforcement, multi-national operations, search and rescue, and public affairs throughout Pacific Area. In August 1997, BOUTWELL located a 40ft Go-Fast boat in international waters. Using contacts and tactics established during previous operations, BOUTWELL coordinated the efforts of Mexican Navy headquarters and three of their ships to recover 2.4 metric tons of cocaine, the first such interdiction in the Eleventh Coast Guard District. While on a port call in Acapulco, BOUTWELL's crew volunteered to paint an orphanage and prepare a meal for the children, donating their own time and money to cover expenses. BOUTWELL performed duties as On Scene Commander at the fatal crash site of Coast Guard Helicopter CG6549. After racing to the location west of Humboldt Bay, BOUTWELL spent three days organizing resources and searching for signs of survivors while coordinating retrieval and transfer efforts for many pieces of wreckage. BOUTWELL served as the senior Coast Guard platform at the 1997 Portland Rose Festival. While in Portland BOUTWELL hosted a live news show, a breakfast for the Festival Royal Court, the Thirteenth District Commander's VIP luncheon, MCPOCG Trent, and thousands of visitors daily during the open house. BOUTWELL also hosted over 250 guests for the 1997 Coast Guard Foundation cruise one week after a 63 day patrol. BOUTWELL was complimented for her efforts by senior Coast Guard flag officers, Foundation leaders, and Coast Guard benefactors in attendance. The professionalism, pride, and devotion to duty displayed by BOUTWELL's crew are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard."

The Operational Distinguishing Device is authorized.

For the Commandant,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas H. Collins".

T. H. COLLINS

Vice Admiral, U. S. Coast Guard
Commander, Coast Guard Pacific Area