



THE COMMANDANT OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
WASHINGTON 20593
16 October 1990

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

USCGC BISCAYNE BAY (WTGB 104)
SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

"For meritorious service from 30 June 1990 to 16 July 1990, while engaged in the final salvage and disposal of Coast Guard Cutter MESQUITE (WLB 305). The Coast Guard Cutter BISCAYNE BAY (WTGB 104) was tasked with enforcing a one thousand yard security zone around the salvage operation. This required a round the clock watch with ready boat crew to respond to violations of the zone. Twenty-four hour operations were conducted for a period of seventeen days with only two inport visits for replenishment of supplies and pumping of sewage. Total inport time was less than ten hours. The cutter logged over three hundred fifty underway hours and safely performed over sixty hours of vital small boat operations. Perimeter patrols were conducted during critical periods of the operation to provide a more visible presence. The rigid hull inflatable small boat was dispatched to ward off or board pleasure craft which were unresponsive to radio calls or disregarded the security zone. BISCAYNE BAY also acted as a communications platform, relaying vital information between shoreside resources and those on-scene. Crewmen from BISCAYNE BAY removed equipment and refuse from MESQUITE during the early days of the operation and maintained an Emergency Medical Technician on immediate standby throughout the operation. The devotion to duty and excellent performance exhibited by the crew of the BISCAYNE BAY 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 dark ink, appearing to read "G. A. Penington".

G. A. PENINGTON
Rear Admiral, U. S. Coast Guard
Commander, Ninth Coast Guard District