

UNITED STATES SEVENTH FLEET



The Secretary of the Navy takes pleasure in presenting
the Navy Commendation Medal to

Lieutenant (junior grade) James William ROONEY
United States Naval Reserve

for service as set forth in the following:

CITATION

"For meritorious achievement as a co-pilot of a helicopter while attached to Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron SIX embarked in USS RANGER (CVA-61). On 26 January 1968, Lieutenant (junior grade) ROONEY's aircraft was vectored to an area near Hon Mat Island, North Vietnam, to rescue a downed Navy attack pilot. The survivor was located in the water, between two destroyers and enemy shore batteries which were engaged in a fierce gun duel. The helicopter entered the area with a low, high speed approach and immediately initiated rescue procedures. Lieutenant (junior grade) ROONEY expertly assisted his pilot throughout the approach and rescue. Advised of heavy enemy missile and anti-aircraft fire in the area, the pilot employed evasive tactics during a rapid departure to seaward. Lieutenant (junior grade) ROONEY's outstanding airmanship and devotion to duty reflected great credit upon himself and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the naval service."

Lieutenant (junior grade) ROONEY is authorized to wear the Combat "V".

For the Secretary

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. F. Bringle".

W. F. BRINGLE
Vice Admiral
United States Navy