



THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
WASHINGTON

The Secretary of the Navy takes pleasure in commending
HELICOPTER ANTI-SUBMARINE SQUADRON SIX

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

For exceptionally meritorious service from 1 July through 23 November 1966 while embarked in USS KEARSARGE (CVS-33), in support of combat operations against North Vietnamese forces. During this period, units of Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron SIX were continuously on duty, providing search and rescue services throughout enemy land and sea areas, in conjunction with combat strikes. Among the well-defended enemy areas in which multiple sorties were conducted to rescue downed airmen were the heart of the harbor at Haiphong, the densely gunned Fai Tsi Long Islands, and the heavily anti-aircraft concentrated delta areas of North Vietnam. Every rescue opportunity and rescue reconnaissance was prosecuted fully, without reservation, until successful, or ordered ceased by higher authority. Concurrent with their intrepid search and rescue operations, the squadron aircraft provided utility services to vessels throughout the strike force, plying daily and continuously the airspace of the combat area. During the period 23-27 October 1966, the squadron provided helicopter services in support of the President of the United States during the SEVEN NATION CONFERENCE at Manila, Republic of the Philippines. Due to the extraordinary effort and competence of maintenance personnel, the heavy flight load imposed by these multiple tasks in no way detracted from the continuous and effective pursuit of rescue duties. The officers and men of Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron SIX have made a major contribution to United States objectives in Southeast Asia. Their courage, skill and inspiring devotion to duty reflect great credit upon themselves and the United States Naval Service.

All personnel attached to and serving on board Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron SIX during the period designated above, or any part thereof, are hereby authorized to wear the Navy Unit Commendation Ribbon.

Paul H. Nitze
Secretary of the Navy