By my authority vested in me by law, I hereby allocate from the appropriation entitled "Emergency Fund for the President, National Defense, 1942 and 1943,"

To

Navy Department

$500,000

To be expended by the Secretary of the Navy for all necessary expenses incurred in the utilization of aliens and alien organizations by the Naval Establishment in the prosecution of the war, in such manner, at such rates, and under such circumstances, as shall be authorized or subsequently approved by the President.

The funds hereby allocated shall be charged against the limitation in said appropriation for expenditures of a confidential nature which it is deemed inadvisable to specify and shall be accounted for solely on the certificate of the Secretary of the Navy.

Please arrange for the necessary transfer of funds and advise the agency concerned.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

The Honorable,

The Secretary of the Treasury.
Forster:
The Director presented the attached personally and brought back the entire file.

A. Woemle
Bureau of the Budget
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

The Secretary of the Navy has submitted a request for an allocation from your Emergency Fund for the fiscal year 1943, from which payments will be made by him to French naval personnel allied with our forces, in accordance with the established French rates.

This allocation is necessary for carrying out your directive contained in memorandum for Admiral King dated December 18, 1942.

The War Department has a similar set of conditions in North Africa and is now paying such French troops from its own funds, therefore requiring no allocation from your Emergency Fund.

I have under consideration proposed new legislation, for early submission to Congress, which will make both War and Navy appropriations available for these purposes and thereby relieve your Emergency Fund from such expenditures as soon as possible.
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
BUREAU OF THE BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C.
February 5, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

By memorandum for Admiral King, dated December 18, 1942, you authorized the Navy Department to pay French naval personnel allied with our forces. To give effect to your directive, there was allocated to the Navy Department, under date of January 1, 1943, the amount of $500,000 from your emergency fund. It was understood that the War Department had, at that time, a similar set of conditions in North Africa which necessitated the payment of French troops, but that this was being accomplished from military appropriations and, hence, no allocation to the War Department from your emergency fund was required.

In my memorandum to you of January 1, 1943, recommending the allocation to the Navy Department of the above mentioned $500,000, I stated that there was under consideration proposed legislation which would make both War and Navy appropriations available for the payment of alien forces. The Navy Department has now submitted a formal request to this office for the transmission to Congress of the proposed legislation, but the Deputy Chief of Staff, Lieut. General Joseph T. McNarney, informally advises that the War Department does not wish to be included in the authorizing legislation at this time due to a change in conditions in North Africa which makes it unnecessary for this government to pay French troops, at least for the present.

The question of paying French troops in the United States has now come up but the War Department is awaiting clarification of the views of the French High Command in North Africa with respect thereto.

In view of the conditions stated above, the proposed legislation regarding payment of French forces has not been included with the supplemental estimates for the Navy.

Shall I submit, at this time, this proposed legislation, making available both War and Navy appropriations for the payment of alien forces?
MEMORANDUM FOR

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

February 22, 1943

I guess you were dreaming or maybe I was dreaming if Randall Jacobs is right in regard to what I am supposed to have said about employment of negroes in the Navy. If I did say that such employment should be stopped, I must have been talking in my sleep. Most decidedly we must continue the employment of negroes in the Navy, and I do not think it the least bit necessary to put mixed crews on the ships. I can find a thousand ways of employing them without doing so.

The point of the thing is this. There is going to be a great deal of feeling if the Government in winning this war does not employ approximately 10% of negroes -- their actual percentage to the total population. The Army is nearly up to this percentage but the Navy is so far below it that it will be deeply criticized by anybody who wants to check into the details.
Perhapa a check by you showing exactly where all white enlisted men are serving and where all colored enlisted men are serving will show you the great number of places where colored men could serve, where they are not serving now -- shore duty of all kinds, together with the handling of many kinds of yard craft.

You know the headache we have had about this and the reluctance of the Navy to have any negroes. You and I have had to veto that Navy reluctance, and I think we have to do it again.

F. D. R.

No papers accompanied the original of this memorandum to the Secretary of the Navy.
February 24, 1943

Memorandum for the President.

Subject: Monsieur Rene' Malavergne of the Fighting French and former River pilot of the Oued Sebon, Port Lyautey, French Morocco - Navy Cross for.

The enclosures, containing the recommendation for the subject award by the Commander in Chief, United States Atlantic Fleet and favorable endorsements by the Commander in Chief, United States Fleet and Senior Member of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals, are forwarded herewith recommending approval.

Date 2/9/57

Signature: [Signature]

Original to [Redacted] Navy

2/16/43
MONSIEUR RENE MALAVERGNE

CITATION

For extraordinary heroism and distinguished service in the line of his profession as pilot aboard the U.S.S. DALLAS during the assault upon and occupation of Port Lyautay Airfield, French Morocco, on November 10, 1942,

Monsieur Malaverge took the helm of the DALLAS and steered her across a dangerous bar over which heavy seas were breaking, through the narrow entrance between the jetties of the Oued Sebou, and up that river to a point off the Port Lyautay Airfield. The channel was restricted in many places by the wrecks of scuttled merchant vessels. During the entire passage the DALLAS was under heavy artillery and machine gun fire as well as the fire from snipers at several points.

This brave action of Monsieur Malaverge at the risk of his life and well knowing that his life would also be in imminent danger if he were captured, enabled the DALLAS to accomplish a hazardous mission with outstanding success. It distinguishes him as a most brave and patriotic Frenchman serving his country in the cause of right.
UNITED STATES FLEET
HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF
NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D. C.

FF1/P15
Serial: 0577

CONFIDENTIAL

THIRD ENDORSEMENT to
CinCLant's ltr of
Feb. 10, 1943, serial
0336.

From: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.
To: Secretary of the Navy.

Subject: Monsieur Rene Malavergne of the Fighting
French and former river pilot of the Oued
Sebou, Port Lyautey, French Morocco -
Navy Cross for.

1. Forwarded, requesting that these recommenda-
tions be submitted to the President for his approval.

R. S. EDWARDS,
Chief of Staff.

FEB 23 1943

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)
Date: 2/9/59
Signature: [Signature]

75193
From: The Senior Member of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals.

To: The Secretary of the Navy.

Via: The Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.

Subject: Monsieur René Malavergne of the Fighting French and former river pilot of the Oued Sebou, Port Lyautéy, French Morocco - Navy Cross for.

Reference: (a) CinCFlant's ltr of Feb. 10, 1943 serial 0336.
(b) Cominin's first end. on reference (a).

1. It is recommended that Monsieur René Malavergne of the Fighting French be awarded the Navy Cross for his actions in serving with the United States Naval Forces on board the U.S.S. DALLAS during the assault upon and occupation of Port Lyautéy, French Morocco on November 10, 1942.

2. Attention is invited to the fact that Monsieur Malavergne is a civilian and is not a citizen of the United States, but a member of the Fighting French having formerly been a river pilot of the Oued Sebou, Port Lyautéy, French Morocco. In accordance with his directive the final approval of the President is required for the award.

A. E. WATSON

Copy to:
Ed of Dec & Medals
Secy Files
Cominin

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Date: 2/9/54

Signature: Carl J. Spencer
UNITED STATES FLEET
HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF
NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D.C.

FEB 15 1943

CONFIDENTIAL

FIRST ENDORSEMENT to
CinClant's ltr of
Feb. 10, 1943 serial
0336.

From: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet, and
Chief of Naval Operations.

To: Secretary of the Navy.

Via: Board of Decorations and Medals.

Subject: Monsieur René Malavergne of the Fighting French
and former river pilot of the Caud Sebou, Port
Lyautey, French Morocco - Navy Cross for.

1. Forwarded, concurring in the recommendation
contained in the basic letter.

E. J. KING.

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (8/27/58)
Date: 2/9/59

Signature: Carl S. Spicer
My dear Mr. President:

There is in progress now a careful survey of the Marine Corps with respect to its authorized strength. This survey is the result of a request from the Commandant for increase of 15,000 in the authorized enlisted strength of the Marine Corps as of June 30, 1943 and an authorized strength of 36,266 officers and 450,000 enlisted men as of June 30, 1944. (These figures include 1000 officers and 18,000 enlisted for Women’s Reserve).

Commenting on this subject, the Commander-in-Chief of the U. S. Fleet suggests an immediate authorization of an additional 3000 officers as of December 31, 1943, or a total of 28,715 for planning purposes pending the outcome and final action on the survey now in progress. This total is exclusive of those required for the Women’s Reserve.

The purpose of asking for this authority for an additional 3000 officers grows out of the fact that the estimated officer strength of the Corps is inadequate for the present enlisted strength. New staff schools, shore establishments, replacements and requirements in technical branches require the services of officers which cannot be met on current allowances.

When the present study of the Marine Corps, which includes a careful report on the present uses to which the enlisted personnel are being put is completed, I will address a further letter to you on this subject. In the meantime, I would like to urge your authorization of this increase in the officer personnel of the Corps.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Knox

The President

The White House
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
March 29, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR:
The President.

Lieutenant Commander Willem Jan Kruys,
Royal Netherlands Navy, Commanding Officer of
the N.D. TJERK HIDDES, is herein recommended
for the award of the Legion of Merit with the
degree of Officer in recognition of his out-
standing service in the successful accomplish-
ment in evacuating troops from Timor during the
current war.

Lieutenant Commander Kruys made three
hazardous trips (in the TJERK HIDDES) to the
South Coast of Timor, through waters controlled
by enemy air and surface forces, evacuating
Australian and Dutch troops and civilian per-
sonnel (approximately 1000 persons). On two
previous occasions vessels on this same mission
were lost.

I concur in the recommendation of the
Board of Decorations and Medals as approved
by the Secretary of the Navy.

Very respectfully,

W. J. FDR
NATIONAL WAR
150-73
MEMORANDUM FOR NAVAL AIDE TO THE PRESIDENT:

There is forwarded herewith a recommendation for the award of the Legion of Merit, degree of Officer to Lieutenant Commander Willem Jan Kruys, Royal Netherlands Navy, Commanding Officer of the N. D. TJERK HIDDES in recognition of his outstanding service in the successful accomplishment in evacuating troops from TIMOR during the current war.

The President has indicated his desire that awards of the Legion of Merit to officers of a foreign nation be submitted to him for final approval.

F. K. March 29, 1943

OK

F. D. R.
Fourth Endorsement

From: The Senior Member of the Navy Department.

To: The Secretary of the Navy.

Via: (1) (2)

Subject: Recommendation for suitable award to Lieutenant Commander Willem Jan Kruys, Royal Netherlands Navy, Commanding Officer of the H.D. TJEERK HIDDES.

Reference: (a) OET-51 secret ltr P15/00/ENN Serial 00172 of Jan. 16, 1943, with forwarding endorsements.

1. Considered at the meeting of the Board of Awards held March 15, 1943.

2. Recommendation: That Lieutenant Commander Willem Jan Kruys, Royal Netherlands Navy, Commanding Officer of the H.D. TJEERK HIDDES, be awarded the Legion of Merit with the degree of Officer in recognition of his outstanding service in the successful accomplishment in evacuating troops from TIMOR during the current war.

3. Attention is invited to the fact that this correspondence contains a recommendation for the award of the Legion of Merit to an officer of a foreign nation, which requires the final approval of the President.

A. E. WATSON
Senior Member

APPROVED: MAR 24 1943

Secretary of the Navy.

Copy for White House File.

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)
Date- 2/9/59
Signature- Carl I. Spicer
UNITED STATES FLEET
HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF
NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D.C.

COMINCH FILE
FF1/P15
Serial: 00320

SECRET

SECOND ENDORSEMENT to
CTP-51 Secret ltr P15/00/RNN
Serial 00172 of January 16, 1943.

From: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet, and
Chief of Naval Operations.

To: Secretary of the Navy.

Subject: Recommendation for suitable award to Lieutenant
Commander Willem Jan Kruys, Royal Netherlands
Navy, Commanding Officer of the N.D. TJERK HIDDES.

1. Forwarded, recommending approval.

/s/ E. J. KING.

THIRD ENDORSEMENT to
CTP 51 Secret ltr, P15/00/RNN
Ser. 00172 of 1-16-43
(SC) P15/EF 48

From: The Secretary of the Navy.
To: The Senior Member of the Navy Department Board of
Decorations and Medals.

1. Forwarded for consideration.

Case
No. 17

/s/ FRANK KNOX

Office of the Secretary of the Navy
Navy Department, Washington, D.C.
20 February, 1943.
FIRST ENDORSEMENT to:
CTF-51 Secret ltr. P15/00/RNN
Serial 00172 of January 16, 1943.

From: The Commander Southwest Pacific Force.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.
Via: The Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet.
Subject: Recommendation for suitable award to Lieutenant Commander Willem Jan Kruys, Royal Netherlands Navy, Commanding Officer of the N.D. TJERK HIDDES.

1. Forwarded. The Commander Southwest Pacific Force strongly recommends Lieutenant Commander Willem Jan Kruys, R.N.N. for an appropriate award in recognition of his successful accomplishment in evacuating troops from Timor.

/s/ J. GARY JONES,
Chief of Staff.

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COD DIR. 5200.9 (8/27/58)

Copy to: CTF-51

Date- 2/4/54
Signature- [Signature]
From: The Commander Task Force Fifty One.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.
Via: (1) The Commander Southwest Pacific Force.
(2) The Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet.

Subject: Recommendation for suitable award to Lieutenant Commander Willem Jan Kruys, Royal Netherlands Navy, Commanding Officer of the N.D. TJEK HIDDES.

Reference: (a) Alnav 288.
(b) Supers Manual Article 1007.
(c) MOIC DARWIN despatch 0755X/19 of December, 1942.
(d) Comsouwespac Despatch 192353 of December, 1942.

Enclosure: (A) Commanding Officer TJEK HIDDES report of January 6, 1943 on operations to TIMOR from PORT DARWIN.
(B) Paraphrase of reference (c).
(C) Paraphrase of reference (d).

1. On December 4, 1942, the Commander Southwest Pacific Force directed the Commander Task Force Fifty One to have one destroyer report to N.O.I.C. Darwin for temporary duty in connection with evacuating troops from TIMOR. The Netherlands Destroyer, TJEK HIDDES, commanded by Lieutenant Commander Willem Jan Kruys, R.N.N., and under the operational control of Commander Task Force Fifty One, was assigned this task and was directed to proceed Darwin at best practicable speed. Enroute to Darwin the TJEK HIDDES was attacked by enemy aircraft several times but due to skillful maneuvering and determined resistance the enemy was repulsed without having inflicted any damage.

2. During the period December 10 to 18, the TJEK HIDDES made three trips to the south coast of Timor, as described in enclosure (A), for the purpose of evacuating Australian and Dutch troops and civilian personnel. Excellent timing was necessary in order to insure the success of these operations. It was necessary to proceed close inshore at high speeds during darkness in order to avoid being in enemy patrolled waters during daylight. These
Subject: Recommendation for suitable award to Lieutenant Commander Willem Jan Kruys, Royal Netherlands Navy, Commanding Officer of the N.D. TJERK HIDDES.

Hazardous missions conducted in waters controlled by enemy air and surface forces and in the known presence of submarines were executed with efficiency and despatch and without damage to the ship or loss of, or injury to, personnel. On two previous occasions vessels on the same mission have been lost. Approximately one thousand persons were evacuated from Timor to Darwin in the TJERK HIDDES.

3. The gallantry, determination, professional skill and cool judgement displayed by the commanding officer, Lieutenant Commander Willem Jan Kruys, R.N.N., throughout the operations were outstanding and it is recommended that a suitable award be made in recognition of the successful accomplishment of this hazardous and difficult task.

/s/ C. A. LOCKWOOD, JR.

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)
Date: 2/9/59
Signature: [Signature]
From: Commanding Officer, H.N.M.S. TJERK HIDDES
To: Commander Task Force FIFTY-ONE.
Subject: Report on operations to Timor from Port Darwin.

1. In execution of Commander Task Force FIFTY-ONE'S 041448 H.N.M.S. TJERK HIDDES arrived at Port Darwin on 9th December.

2. During the trip the ship was attacked from the air. The signal requesting air support was not received by N.O.I.C. Darwin until four hours after despatch, and it is thought to be of value in such cases to establish a direct intercommunication wave.

3. The following information regarding enemy air activity was received from N.O.I.C. Darwin after arrival at that port.

"Enemy aircraft are based on AMBON, KOFEPANG, DILLI and possibly LAUTEM. A dawn reconnaissance is made daily along the South Coast of TIMOR, and frequently several more during the day. A morning search is made to seaward S.E. from BETABO. A thorough reconnaissance of the TIMOR SEA is made, and the following two normal searches are known, (a) from KOFEPANG to a position 80 miles North of CAPELEVEQUE on the Australian coast, thence to a position approximately 13°S, 126°E., Thence East to Long. 129°E., thence North to Lat. 128°, thence West, (b) from KOFEPANG, an area 30 miles wide parallel to the South Coast of TIMOR and 30 miles from it and as far East as 128°30' East.

4. In view of the necessity of keeping the ship's presence unknown to the enemy on passage north it was at first considered best, in view of the possibility of Japanese coastal reconnaissance of Australia to follow an unusual route and to keep about 200 miles North of Cape Leveque, but as this route was found to pass considerably closer to TIMOR, it was decided to follow the inner passage. It was while keeping to this inner passage that the ship was sighted by a reconnaissance aircraft off Adele Isles which is on the route of the reconnaissance plane mentioned above.

5. The first operation was carried out on 10th December, leaving Darwin at 2100z/9th and proceeding through Dundas Strait so as to pass Cape Don at 0230z/10. From there course was set direct to Betano on Timor at a speed of 30 knots, thus passing point "X" (150 miles from Betano) at 1000z. Fighter protection was provided until 0845z. This route was devised to give maximum immunity from Japanese reconnaissance aircraft. If the ship had been sighted before 0810z (2 hours before last light) the operation had to be abandoned but if spotted after that time the operation would have been carried out as it was considered the enemy had then insufficient time to mount an attack before dark.

6. It was expected to arrive at Betano beach not later than 1600z, allowing an hour for reduction in speed and a very slow approach to the anchorage. To assist location of Betano three fires were to be lit at beach level not less than 50 yards apart at 1500z. A simple flashing recognition procedure had also been devised.

7. During the approach there was no cloud cover and the night was starlit with good visibility. At 1225z R.D.F. watch was set and land echoes obtained at range or 30,000 yards. At 1445z land was sighted on the starboard bow and at 1448z speed was decreased to 20 knots at R.D.F. range of 20,000 yards and echo sounding and echo watch set. Several bonfires were observed, but none were at beach level. The ship then made a search to starboard at a range of 3,000 yards from the coast. At 1505z course was altered 180 degrees and at 1510z the first beach fires was sighted and identified as Betano beach. Ten minutes later the second and third fires were seen. It was subsequently learned...
Subject: Report on operations to Timor from Port Darwin.

that the delay in lighting the beach fires was caused by heavy rainfall previously in the day. Upon crossing the 100 fathoms line, which was close to the shore, speed was reduced to slow and the anchor veered to 60 fathoms. At 1545 the beach was challenged at a distance of 1-1/4 miles. At 1600 the ship anchored in 21 fathoms of water by echo sounding machine at a distance 1000 yards hearing 318 degrees from middle beach fire.

8. When speed was reduced to 20 knots two motor boats and four, of the total of eight, collapsible pontoon barges were slung outboard, two of the latter on torpedo davits and two on ammunition derricks, all ready for lowering. Seven minutes after anchoring the first flight of four boats went ashore empty. The second flight was loaded with troops and stores for Timor.

By 1755 approximately 50 sick and wounded, 50 women and children and a total of about 300 troops (Dutch troops and 2/2nd Australian Ind. Coy) were embarked.

At 1745 the ship commenced weighing anchor and at 1812 anchor was away and the last boat hoisted.

9. During the period the ship was at anchor great vigilance was maintained consisting of R.D.F. and Asdic watch to seawards and four lookouts. As the manning of two motor boats and eight barges took about fifty men, the guns could not be fully manned, but the pom pom and torpedo tubes were ready for instant action, and anchor was ready to slip.

10. The latest time arranged for departure from Betano was 1845 (2 hours before first light).

Course was set for Cape Don at 1812, speed 20 knots. At 1820 speed was increased to 30 knots and asdic watch ceased. After first light course was altered slightly, on several occasions, to obtain maximum cover from rain squalls.

At 2210 the first two Beaufighter aircraft were sighted and challenged, and from then onwards the ship was under continuous fighter protection.

0800z/11th Port Darwin was reached. No enemy aircraft were sighted.

11. The second operation was carried out on 15th December leaving Port Darwin at 1530z/14th. Course was followed to Westward of Melville Island and thence to the North East at an average speed of 20 knots to avoid the possibility of being sighted by an enemy submarine which had been reported near Cape Don. On reaching a point North of Dundas Strait course was altered to point "X", again 150 miles from a position on the Timor coast 8 miles to the west of Betano. Betano beach could not again be used owing to the reported presence of Japanese troops in or near Betano and the possibility that the method of execution of the last operation had been compromised.

12. Favorable weather consisting of low clouds and rain squalls was encountered and in some instances the fighter protection planes were unable to locate the ship.

At 1000z speed was increased to 30 knots, and land was sighted in moonlight on the starboard bow at 1135z. From 1329z reliable land fixes were obtained on Dutch chart No. 329. At 1440z beach fires were sighted ahead and speed was reduced to 20 knots and
Subject: Report on operations to Timor from Port Darwin.

The operation to Timor was carried out on 11th December, leaving Port Darwin at 1500z/11th, destination Alambata on the South East coast of Timor. Fighter protection was provided until about 0830z. A similar course was followed as in the second operation, a point "X" (150 miles from Alambata) being reached at 0940z. Speed of advance, 30 knots. Again favorable weather was encountered as the North West monsoon had reached Timor and moonlight was experienced until about 1700z.

At 1020z a position was obtained by starfix and at 1405z land was sighted on starboard bow and R.D.F. watch was set. Range was then 25,000 yards.

At 1440z beach fires were sighted right ahead bearing 302. Speed was reduced to 18 knots when 12,000 yards from shore. Echo sounding and asdic watch were set. Challenged beach party at 1502z and latered course to 318°. At 1505z anchor was veered to 12-1/2 fathoms and speed reduced to dead slow, approach course 315° on Alambata obelisk which was clearly visible in the moonlight. At 1515z ship anchored in 10 fathoms of water half a mile from beach.

1517z the first flight of boats left the ship and the second flight landed about 5 tons of stores, guns and ammunition.

By 1643z 310 people, including Portuguese and native men, women and children, as well as a very elderly lady in sedan chair, and 4-1/2 tons of rubber were embarked.

At 1652z the ship was underway and proceeded via point "X" straight to Port Darwin, sighting first Beaufighter aircraft protection at 2240z.

At 0510z Port Darwin was reached. No enemy aircraft were sighted.
Subject: Report on operations to Timor from Port Darwin.

18. Throughout the three operations the first degree of readiness for anti-aircraft armament was maintained during daylight hours. Third degree of readiness was maintained during dark hours except when within one hour steaming from Timor. While the ship was at anchor the pom-pom and torpedo tubes were ready for immediate use and Asdic and R.D.F. watch was maintained to seawards and lookouts posted.

19. Hudson aircraft carried out anti-submarine patrol along the south coast of Timor and anti-surface ship patrols in Arufores Sea during each operation. Nothing was reported.

20. Asdic was used as an additional navigational aid, but no reefs were detected except when passing Holothuria Banks at a speed of 18 knots after the air attack on the ship on the approach to Port Darwin. Course was altered to avoid possible danger.

21. The only chance to gain time during the whole operation was while the ship was at anchor, as the approach and departure were made at maximum speed. Also this anchor period was the most dangerous for the ship as she presented an excellent target for any form of attack. Therefore, the execution of the embarking operations were developed on the following principles:

(a) Lowering the boats. As many boats as possible should be slung out ready for lowering before anchoring, and the first flight should be away directly afterwards. The boat time made was 2 minutes.

(b) Landing the boats. Special care was taken to train the crew in handling landing craft the day prior to the first operation, and instruction was given in the form of landing to be employed on a steep coast.

(c) Loading and unloading. Special stress was laid on the necessity for speedy loading on shore and disembarking on board. Each boat came alongside scramble nets and strong ranits were standing in the nets to lift those in difficulties. This proved to be very successful, especially in the case of women and children.

(d) Boat traffic. An officer was specially detailed in a motor boat to seen both that no boats were allowed to lie idle and that boats which were full were towed without delay to the ship.

(e) Hoisting the boats. As the numbers on the shore to be brought off decreased, a start was made at hoisting the boats, so that non boat made an unnecessary trip ashore at the end of the operation, and when the last boat came back it could be hoisted immediately and the ship underway.

(f) The distance off shore. The distance off shore was not considered of any importance in the speed of execution of the operation in comparison to the safe navigation of the ship. The experience has shown that half a mile on this coast is the approach that can be carried out with safety under these conditions.

22. Ship left Port Darwin for Fremantle at 2230z/19th December, speed of advance 24 knots so as to reach the Holothuria Banks at 0930z in view of enemy air reconnaissance. Early warning was provided until 0900z/20th. Speed was increased to 30 knots until 2200z/20th so as to pass the mouth of the Darnley Japanese reconnaissance plane during dark hours. Course was steered so as to pass through position 18°55' South, 118°28' East, 189°28' South and perhaps a lower quality of oil fuel obtained in Port Darwin, and fuel bottom, it was found that an unusual increase in oil consumption prevented the ship reaching Geraldton in safety.
Subject: Report on operations to Timor from Port Darwin.

Having been informed in Port Darwin that fuel was available in Exmouth Gulf, a signal was despatched asking that this might be available. Fifty tons of oil was obtained from U.S.S. WILLIAM B. PRESTON with great dispatch in the circumstances prevailing at the time.

In Geraldton 100 tons of oil were embarked. A four hours trial at 30 knots to test the oil consumption was subsequently carried out and quite normal consumption figures were again obtained.

W. J. KRUYS, Lt., Cdr. R.N.N.,
Commanding Officer,
H.N.M.S. TJERK HIDDES.
NAVAL MESSAGE

192353

ACNB HAS FOR INFO X FOR TJERK HIDDES X WELL DONE X
SEE NOIC DARWIN 0755Z/19 X COMSOWESPAC ORIGINATOR

CERTIFIED TO BE A PARAPHRASED COPY

/s/ JOHN P. COWERY

RDO CANBERRA USRAD PERTH
WITH GREAT EFFICIENCY ND TJERK HIDDENS HAS SUCCESSFULLY
COMPLETED LAST OF 3 OPERATIONS X INTEND SAILING HER FOR
PREMANTLE AT 2230Z 19TH X SITUATION IN TIMOR NO LONGER
WARRANTS HER RETENTION

CERTIFIED TO BE A PARAPHRASED COPY

/s/ JOHN F. CONNERY

NOIC DARWIN  COMSOWESPAC
ACNB
CTF 51
THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
WASHINGTON

April 8, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

Subject: Report of Enlisted Personnel, United States Navy.

1. The estimated number of enlisted men in active service on March 31, 1943, is as indicated below. For basis of comparison, the revised estimated number in active service on February 28, 1943, is also included:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>March 31, 1943</th>
<th>February 28, 1943</th>
<th>Net Gain For Month</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regular Navy</td>
<td>319,935</td>
<td>315,938</td>
<td>3,997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retired, Active</td>
<td>7,218</td>
<td>7,202</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fleet Reserve</td>
<td>8,039</td>
<td>8,033</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>Women's Reserve</td>
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<td>1,273,613</td>
<td>1,206,941</td>
<td>66,672</td>
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</table>

2. To date 116,726 men have been inducted into the Navy through Selective Service.

Very respectfully,

[Signature]

The President,
The White House.
April 9, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE NAVAL AIDE TO THE PRESIDENT:

There is forwarded herewith one (1)
Medal of Honor citation for the signature of the President.

Frank Knox

[Signature]

DEFENSE

[Signature]

DECLASSIFIED

DOD Dir. 5200.9 (9/27/69)

Date: 2/9/54

[Signature]
The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the MEDAL OF HONOR posthumously to

COMMANDER HOWARD W. GILMORE, UNITED STATES NAVY

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

"For distinguished gallantry and valor above and beyond the call of duty as Commanding Officer of the U.S.S. GROWLER during her Fourth War Patrol in the Southwest Pacific from January 10 to February 7, 1943. Boldly striking at the enemy in spite of continuous hostile air and anti-submarine patrols, Commander Gilmore sank one Japanese freighter and damaged another by torpedo fire, successfully evading severe depth charges following each attack. In the darkness of night on February 7, an enemy gunboat closed range and prepared to ram the GROWLER. Commander Gilmore daringly maneuvered to avoid the crash and rammed the attacker instead, ripping into her port side at 17 knots and bursting wide her plates. In the terrific fire of the sinking gunboat's heavy machine guns, Commander Gilmore calmly gave the order to clear the bridge, and refusing safety for himself, remained on deck while his men preceded him below. Struck down by the fusillade of bullets and having done his utmost against the enemy, in his final living moments Commander Gilmore gave his last order to the Officer of the Deck, 'Take her down!' The GROWLER dived; seriously damaged but under control, she was brought safely to port by her well-trained crew inspired by the courageous fighting spirit of their dead captain."

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

Copy to:

White House Files
Board of Awards
Secretary's Files
Public Relations, Navy Dept.
Public Relations, BuPers
Mrs. Casbarian, Public Relations
SECRET

FIFTH ENDORSEMENT to
CTF-42 Secret Ltr. FF12-15
(42)F15/00-Ms: Serial 0055
of Feb. 21, 1943

From: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.
To: Secretary of the Navy.

Subject: Commander Howard W. Gilmore, U.S.Navy, deceased;
        Medal of Honor - Recommendation for posthumous
        award of.

1. Forwarded, attention invited to the second
   endorsement.

/s/ R. S. EDWARDS

R. S. EDWARDS
Chief of Staff

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 8200.9 (9/27/58)
Date- 2/4/59
Signature- Carl T. Soper
COMANDER TASK FORCE FORTY-TWO

File FF12-159/2)/PI5/90-He c/o Fleet Post Office,
Serial 0055 San Francisco, Calif.
February 21, 1943

SECRET

From: The Commander Task Force FORTY-TWO.
TO: The Secretary of the Navy.
Via: Commander Southwest Pacific Force.

Subject: Medal of Honor - Recommendation for posthumous award of.

1. Commander Howard W. Gilmore, U.S. Navy, deceased, assumed command of the U.S.S. GROWLER when she was commissioned on March 20, 1942 and remained in command until he heroically met his death on February 7, 1943 in an action with an enemy armed vessel during GROWLER'S Fourth War Patrol. GROWLER inflicted heavy damage on the Japanese during her first three war patrols and, as a result of his successes, Commander Gilmore was awarded the Navy Cross and a Gold Star in lieu of a second Navy Cross. An outstanding highlight of GROWLER'S earlier patrols and an incident illustrative of the daring, skill and intrepidity of her captain, was an attack in Alaskan waters on three large enemy destroyers, two of which were sunk and the third heavily damaged.

2. GROWLER departed on her Fourth War Patrol on January 1, 1943 and arrived, on January 10, in her assigned patrol area off NEW BRITAIN, NEW IRELAND and NEW HANOVER Islands, covering the approaches to RABaul and KAVINGO. The area patrolled was under almost continuous air patrol by the enemy and all vessels sighted were escorted by anti-submarine vessels. On January 16, GROWLER successfully penetrated a heavy screen and sank a 5,425 ton freighter by torpedo fire, both torpedoes fired scoring hits. On January 30, a second freighter of about 6,500 tons was damaged by torpedo fire, further attacks being frustrated by gun-fire from the target. Following each of these attacks GROWLER was severely depth charged but her Commanding Officer ably maneuvered his ship so as to avoid damage. On other occasions when enemy vessels were sighted, Commander Gilmore was most aggressive in his efforts to reach a firing position, but initial long ranges and large angles on the bow prevented additional successful attacks. On February 5 a dangerous leak developed in the forward torpedo room following a series of depth charge attacks by enemy patrol vessels, but flooding was controlled and depth control maintained as a result of the prodigious efforts of the well-trained and well-directed crew.
4. GROWLER was patrolling on the surface during the early morning of February 7 when, at 0100(K), an enemy vessel was sighted close aboard. GROWLER turned away momentarily to prepare tubes for firing and then closed in to attack. The night was dark and visibility was very poor but when the range was reduced to about 2000 yards, the enemy vessel, a converted gunboat of about 2500 tons, sighted GROWLER and changed course to ram. No longer in a position to fire torpedoes, Commander Gilmore skillfully handled his ship to avoid the ramming attack of the enemy, and having done so, then courageously and daringly turned the tables on the enemy and rammed the gunboat with the GROWLER. GROWLER, making seventeen knots, struck the enemy gunboat on her port side and ripped her side platting wide open. The gunboat apparently sank, but while doing so, opened fire on GROWLER'S bridge and conning tower structure with heavy machine guns. The GROWLER'S Commanding Officer gave the order to clear the bridge. Although in a position near the hatch where he could quickly reach the comparative safety of the conning tower, Commander Gilmore, without regard for his own safety, bravely ordered the remainder of the bridge force to precede him. Four men, two of whom were wounded, reached the conning tower, but the heavy fusillade of .50 cal. bullets ripped through the thin side platting and mortally wounded the gallant captain and two others. As the captain fell dying to the deck his last words to the officer of the deck were "Take her down", knowing he would be left on the bridge. Thus, in his final living moments, having done his utmost against the enemy, the captain had thoughts only for the safety of his beloved GROWLER and for the preservation of her fine crew. His orders were carried out. The damaged GROWLER diving and her well-organised crew kept her under control in the face of dangerous leaks caused by enemy gunfire, with bow planes and vital auxiliaries inoperative. Motivated by the fighting spirit of their dead captain, they effected necessary repairs and brought their ship safely to port where she will be repaired and will fight again.

5. Our country has lost one of its most distinguished Submarine Captains, one whose dominating purpose was to inflict maximum damage on the enemy without regard for his own personal safety. His career will long serve as a shining example to the Submarine Service which claims him as one of the outstanding heroes of the war.
COMMANDEA TASK FORCE FORTY-TWO

File FF12-15(l2)/P15/00-He
Serial 0055

C/O FLEET POST OFFICE,
San Francisco, California
February 21, 1943

SUBJECT:

Commander Howard W. Gilmore, U.S. Navy, deceased;
Medal of Honor - Recommendation for posthumous
award of.

It is considered that our nation can properly confer upon him only its
highest award.

In view of the above, it is most strongly recommended
that Commander Howard W. Gilmore, U.S. Navy, deceased, be posthumously
awarded the Medal of Honor, with proposed citation as follows:

CITATION

For distinguishing yourself conspicuously by gallantry
and intrepidity at the risk of your life above and beyond the call
of duty and without detriment to the mission of your command, in an
action with an armed enemy vessel.

During the Fourth War Patrol of the U.S.S. GROWLER, of
which you were Commanding Officer, you adroitly and aggressively
maneuvered your ship into positions from which to strike the enemy, and
aggressively attacked, sinking one medium freighter and damaging another.
On February 7, 1943, after an enemy gunboat had attempted to ram your
ship, you, with great skill, avoided the enemy's maneuver and instead
courageously rammed and sank the enemy gunboat. When the enemy opened
fire at point blank range with heavy machine guns you ordered the
bridge cleared, and without regard for your own life, heroically stood
aside, braving the fusillade of bullets, while your men reached com-
parative safety below, as a result of which you were mortally wounded
by the enemy gunfire. Furthermore, you then ordered your ship to
submerge knowing you would be left on the bridge and would be lost.
Your ship, though damaged, safely reached port and will fight again,
but you gave your life in the service of your country.

Your actions were in accordance with the finest
traditions of the Naval Service.

/s/ JAMES FIFE

Date 2/9/54

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.3 (9/27/66)

CARL S. SPEE
SECRET

FIRST ENDORSEMENT TO:
CTF-42 Secret Itr. P15/00 (0055)
of February 21, 1943.

From: The Commander Southwest Pacific Force.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.

Subject: Commander Howard W. Gilmore, U.S. Navy, deceased; Medal of Honor - Recommendation for posthumous award of.

1. I can add nothing to the tribute which has been paid to this gallant officer by his Task Force Commander, and concur wholeheartedly in the recommendation that a posthumous award of the Medal of Honor be made to Commander Howard W. Gilmore, U.S. Navy, deceased.

/s/ A. S. CARPENTER

A. S. CARPENTER

COPY TO:
CTF-42

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)
Date- 2/9/59
Signature-
SECRET

SECOND ENDORSEMENT to

CTF-42 Secret Ltr. PIL/00 (0055)
of February 21, 1943.

From: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet and
Chief of Naval Operations.

To: The Secretary of the Navy.

Subject: Commander Howard W. Gilmore, U.S. Navy,
deceased; Medal of Honor - Recommendation
for posthumous award of.

1. I concur in the recommendation that the Medal of
Honor be awarded posthumously to the late Commander Howard W.
Gilmore, U.S. Navy. Commander Gilmore has well earned the
highest award that can be given for bravery in action.

/s/ E. J. KING

E. J. KING

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/59)

Date: 2/9/54

Signature: Carl L. Spicer
March 24, 1943

Third

CTF-42 Secret ltr. FF12-15
(42)/P15/00-He: Serial 0055
of Feb. 21, 1943

Board of Decorations and
Medals.

The Chief of Naval Personnel,
The Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.

Commander Howard W. Gilmore, U.S. Navy, deceased; Medal of Honor - Recommendation for posthumous award of.

(a) CTF-42 Secret ltr. FF12-15(42)/P15/00-He: Serial 0055
of Feb. 21, 1943.

March 18, 1943.

That Commander Howard W. Gilmore, U.S. Navy, deceased, be posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor in recognition of his extraordinary heroism as Commanding Officer of the U.S.S. GROWLER during a Fourth War Patrol of that vessel in combat with the enemy Japanese on February 7, 1943.

/s/ A. E. WATSON

A. E. WATSON

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/88)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature -

Copy to:
Bd of Dec & Medals
Cominich
FOURTH ENDORSEMENT

to CTF-42 Secret Ltr FM2-15
(42)/FL/00-Re: Serial 0055
of Feb. 21, 1943

From: The Chief of Naval Personnel.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.
Via: The Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.
Subject: Commander Howard W. Gilmore, U.S. Navy, deceased; Medal of Honor - Recommendation for posthumous award of.

1. Forwarded, concurring in the recommendation of the Board of Decorations and Medals.

/s/ L. E. DENFELD

L. E. DENFELD
The Assistant Chief of Naval Personnel

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/59)

Date - 2/9/54

Signature - Carl S. Spaatz
Prepared--April 19, 1943

Signed 5-1-43

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the MEDAL OF HONOR posthumously to

DOUGLAS ALBERT MUNRO, SIGNALMAN FIRST CLASS, UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

"For extraordinary heroism and conspicuous gallantry in action above and beyond the call of duty as Officer in Charge of a group of 24 Higgins boats, engaged in the evacuation of a Battalion of Marines trapped by enemy Japanese forces at Point Cruz, Guadalcanal, on September 27, 1942. After making preliminary plans for the evacuation of nearly 500 beleaguered Marines, MUNRO, under constant strafing by enemy machine guns on the Island, and at great risk of his life, daringly led five of his small craft toward the shore. As he closed the beach, he signalled the others to land, and then in order to draw the enemy's fire and protect the heavily loaded boats, he valiantly placed his craft with its two small guns as a shield between the beachhead and the Japanese. When the perilous task of evacuation was nearly completed, MUNRO was instantly killed by enemy fire, but his crew, two of whom were wounded, carried on until the last boat had landed and cleared the beach. By his outstanding leadership, expert planning, and dauntless devotion to duty, he and his courageous comrades undoubtedly saved the lives of many who otherwise would have perished. He gallantly gave up his life in defense of his country."

For the President,

Secretary of the Navy.

Copy to:
Board of Awards
Secretary's Files
Public Relation, Navy Dept.
Public Relations, BuPers
Mrs. Cashartan, Public Relations

Ref: ComCoPac Conf 1tr Fl5/(02) Ser 0176 Feb 7, 1943 Bd Auds Misc Q
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 30, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR:

The President.

Approval of the attached Medal of Honor citation is recommended.

Very respectfully,

W. F. Burns

W. F. Burns

Original to Admiral Brown 5-3-43
MEMORANDUM for the NAVAL AIDE to the PRESIDENT.

There is forwarded herewith one (1) Medal of Honor citation for the signature of the President.

Frank Knox  

x/8
From: The Chief of Naval Personnel
To: The Secretary of the Navy
Subject: MUNRO, Douglas Albert, SMc, 217-739, U. S. Coast Guard.
1. Forwarded, concurring in the recommendation of the Board of Awards.

L. E. Denfeld
The Assistant Chief of Naval Personnel

APPROVED:

Secretary of the Navy

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)
Date: 2/9/59
Signature:
Second Endorsement

to Comsopac Conf. Ltr. P15/(02)
Serial 0176 of Feb. 7, 1943.

From: The Senior Member of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals.

To: The Secretary of the Navy.

Via: (1) The Chief of Naval Personnel.
    (2)

Subject: Recommendation for the Medal of Honor in the case of MUNRO, Douglas Albert, SMlc, 217-739, U. S. Coast Guard.


1. Considered at the meeting of the Board of Awards held March 18, 1943.

2. Recommendation: That MUNRO, Douglas "Albert, SMlc, 217-739, U. S. Coast Guard, be awarded posthumously the Congressional Medal of Honor in recognition of his extraordinary heroism as Officer in Charge of a group of Higgins boats engaged in operations at Guadalcanal on September 27, 1942.

A. E. WATSON

Declassified

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
DeclasSified
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (8/27/58)
Date- 2/9/59
Signature- Paul D. Spicer
From: The Commander in Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.
Subject: Recommendation for the Medal of Honor in the case of MUNRO, Douglas Albert, SM1c, 217-739, U. S. Coast Guard.

1. Forwarded, strongly concurring in the recommendation of the basic letter.

C.W. NIMITZ

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (8/27/58)
Date: 2/7/59
Signature: Carl S. Spaar
From: The Commander South Pacific Area and South Pacific Force.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.
Via: The Commander in Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet.

Subject: Recommendation for the Medal of Honor in the case of MUNRO, Douglas Albert, Enl., 217-739, USCG.

Reference: (a) CO NOB GUADALCANAL Conf. ltr. Fl5/ of October 24, 1942.

Enclosure: (A) Copy of reference (a).
(B) CO Amphibious Force South Pacific Force Conf. ltr. Fl5/ over serial 049 of 27 January 1943.

1. Enclosures (A) and (B) are forwarded herewith strongly recommending approval of the award of the Medal of Honor (Posthumous) in the case of the subject named man.

T. S. WILKINSON,
Deputy Commander South Pacific Area.
From: Commanding Officer, Commander Amphibious Forces, South Pacific. Commander Naval Activities, CACTUS-RINGBOLT.

Subject: Forced evacuation of Marines at Point Cruz, Guadalcanal, on September 27, 1942 - Citations and Letters of Commendation - recommendations for in connection with.

1. At about 1530, September 27, 1942, word was received from lst Marine Division Headquarters that a rapid evacuation of lst Battalion, 7th Regiment, lst Marine Division, previously landed on the beach at Point Cruz, Guadalcanal, was necessary, and so at 1605 all available Higgins Boats, 24 boats with volunteer crews, under MUNRO, D. A., SMLc, USCG, were dispatched to the specified beach.

2. Upon arrival in the vicinity of the beach, MUNRO directed that all boats wait about a mile off shore and he proceeded into the beach to contact the Marines at that point and make the necessary arrangements for the withdrawal. As he was proceeding in to the beach where the landing had been made earlier that day, an airplane from CACTUS, that had been sent to assist, flew low and directed him to another point some 250 yards to the west. Upon close examination he found the Marines were on the beach at that point. As he turned his boat to where the Marines were, two Japanese machine guns that had been set up at the beach to which he had been going opened fire, and raked his boat. He proceeded to the beach, contacted the Marines, made arrangements for the boat operations and examined the beach and found it good but narrow so that only three boats could land at one time.

3. He loaded about thirty men in his boat and withdrew to where the other boats were waiting. He transferred his cargo into one of the slower boats, told the others of the situation, and called for volunteer crews for five boats plus his own. He then directed all other boats to remain off shore and to take excess passengers out of the boats as they came back out.

4. He then gave the directions to the five boats that were to hit the beach and preceded them towards shore. As he closed the beach he signalled the other boats to land and he with EVANS, Raymond J., SMLc, USCG; BENNETT, W.J., Cox, USN; ROBERTS, Samuel B. Cox, USN; as crew, placed their boat between the beachhead and the enemies machine guns so as to draw the enemy fire and try to protect the boats while they were being loaded. This boat was armed with only two Lewis Automatic machine guns.
Subject: Forced evacuation of Marines at Point Cruz, Guadalcanal, on September 27, 1942 - Citations and Letters of Commendation - recommendations for in connection with.

5. Seeing their maneuver LESLIE, Dale M., 2nd Lieutenant, USMC, the pilot of the plane flew very low, strafing the guns, and also drawing their fire so as to assist and protect both Munro's boat and the boats being loaded at the beachhead. Also during this maneuver, Leslie spotted a man in the water, and dropped a flare near him so that he was noticed and rescued. He also directed a salvage boat to the assistance of one of the boats that had just left the beach loaded with about 70 Marines and had had engine trouble.

6. Without question, the heroic action of Munro, his crew, the excellent performance of Leslie and the repeated and unhesitating return to the beach of the boats in order to pick up men were the reason that every Marine that had been able to reach the beach was successfully evacuated by boat. A total of about 470 of the 488 landed earlier in the day were rescued.

7. The total time of evacuation from the beach was approximately thirty minutes, yet in this time the enemy set up and were using four machine guns, one mortar, and two anti-tank guns. Near the last of the evacuation, Munro was instantly killed and even though Roberts and Bennett were both wounded, Evans remained in his position attempting to hold the wheel in one hand and resting a machine gun on the gunwhale while he continued to fire and draw fire until the last boats had loaded and cleared the beach.

8. As a result of the above action, it is recommended that the following awards be made:

MEDAL OF HONOR

MUNRO, Douglas Albert, S1MC, 217-739, U.S.C.G.

Citation

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library DECLASSIFIED DOD DIR. 5200.9 (8/27/58)

Date- 2/9/54

Signature- Carl A. Hicks

For extraordinary heroism over and above the line of duty as officer in charge of a group of Higgins boats that were engaged in an operation at Guadalcanal on 27 September, 1942. You and your volunteer crew did so place yourselves so as to force the enemy machine guns to return your fire and to make your boat their target in order that other boats that were heavily loaded with Marines would be spared. By your acts and planning, even though you lost your life, the maneuver was so successfully carried out that the loss of life was remarkably small.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Personnel requirements of Marine Corps.

By memorandum of September 30, 1942, the Joint Chiefs of Staff recommended and you approved for planning purposes a strength for the Marine Corps of 334,500 men and 25,715 officers on December 31, 1943.

On November 4, 1942, the Director of the Bureau of the Budget directed that 310,000 should be used as the average enlisted strength for fiscal 1944 as a basis in preparing total and detailed budget estimates. This figure evidently did not take into consideration the expansion from 334,500 to 370,000 which is the anticipated maximum enlisted strength to be reached at the end of fiscal 1944.

I am advised that reduction of the average enlisted strength from 334,500 to 310,000 will (a) delay readiness of the 4th Division until the spring of 1944; (b) reduce operating aircraft squadrons from 81 to 61, and (c) delay the supply of adequate replacements to South Pacific.

By letter dated February 25, 1943, I proposed and you approved a total of 28,715 officers for planning purposes as of December 31, 1943. This is an increase of 3,000 officers above the figure of 25,715 recommended by the Joint Chiefs of Staff on September 30, 1942, and approved by you for planning purposes. It now becomes desirable to convert this planning figure of 28,715 into actual officer strength. However, pending completion of the "Troop Bases" study of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, I recommend that you approve for actual strength on December 31, 1943, only the 25,715 officers mentioned in the Joint Chiefs of Staff paper of September 30, 1942.

On December 2, 1942, you approved the College Training Program for the Army and the Navy. The Marine Corps expects to have an average of 13,500 students on active duty in this program during fiscal 1944, commencing with about 12,000 on July 1, 1943, and ending the year on June 30, 1944, with about 15,000. The figures on planning and actual enlisted strength of the Corps have not included these students.
Accordingly, I recommend that you authorize:

1. An actual strength of the Marine Corps as of December 31, 1943, of 25,715 officers and 334,500 enlisted men (exclusive of Women Reservists and enlisted students in the College Training Program), being the figure recommended by the Joint Chiefs of Staff on September 30, 1942, and approved by you for planning.

2. An average actual enlisted strength of 13,500 students for the College Training Program for fiscal 1944.

Respectfully,

s/ FRANK KNOX
MEMORANDUM FOR:

The President.

Approval is recommended of the attached list of one hundred and seventy-five Commanders for temporary promotion to the rank of Captain.

Very respectfully,

W. J. Brown

Date: 2/1/54

Signature - Carl I. Speer

This list of names was approved J. C. O/C. JDC 5-3-43.
Mrs. Bourtel

This list of Commanders was stamped confidential. I asked Adm. Brown for a copy. Mr. Rigdon says the Navy does not want to give out a copy so I suggested that he take it up with Mr. Foster. The last time I spoke to Mr. Rigdon he had not been able to get a copy so I think this should be filed and I will send you the copy when and if I get it.

P. Miller
STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

Memorandum for the President

Copy to: Mrs. Roosevelt
        Secretary Early
        Admiral Wilson Brown
        Miss Grace Tully
        Mr. Grif
        Mr. Reilly

The President will participate in presentation ceremonies to be held at the Washington Navy Yard on June 10, 1943, 5:00 P.M., in connection with the transfer of a PT boat to the Government of Greece by the Government of the United States. The ceremonies will be the same as carried out in the presentation of a United States Naval Vessel to the Government of the Netherlands, August 6, 1942.

E. M. N.

x4193
x18-78
x18
x136-Miss. Broadcasting Field
The Greek Ambassador has indicated that Thursday, June 10, 1943, would be a convenient time for the presentation of the PC Boat.

June 10 - '43

approved by

The President
SECRET

The Vice Chief of Naval Operations

May 21, 1943

Reference: PC Board for Greece
Serial No. 055913 (80), III, 7/17/43, dated May 18, 1943.

Subject: PC Boat for Greece.

The President desires certain
volunteers from the American Navy
and the Greek Ministry have agreed
that the ceremony be held at the
Washington Navy Yard
at about 1700 on 10 June and that
the procedure shall
be the same as carried out in the
presentation of the
changer to Holland.

1. The President requests that you
consult the State Department in
the arrangements of all further
details.

2. Recent despatches indicate that a Greek
Admiral may be expected in the United States in the
near future, I mention this in case the particular
despatches have not been routed to you.

3. Recent despatches indicate that a Greek
Admiral may be expected in the United States in the
near future, I mention this in case the particular
despatches have not been routed to you.
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 20, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR ADMIRAL WILSON BROWN:

Confirming our telephone call to your office today, I wish to state that in accordance with the President's wishes I conveyed to the Greek Ambassador the President's selection of three alternate dates for the presentation of the PC Boat to Greece, June 10th, 15th or 16th. The Greek Ambassador has expressed his preference for Thursday, June 10, 1943, and I have so advised the President.

I return herewith Admiral Horne's communication addressed to you under date of May 18, 1943, retaining a copy for my file.

E.M.W.
MEMORANDUM FOR: THE NAVAL AIDE TO THE PRESIDENT.

Subject: PC Boat for Greece.

1. Forty of the fifty-nine members of the Greek crew to be assigned to the PC 622 will complete their training if Miami early in June. It is not known when the other nineteen members will arrive in the United States, nor can any definite information be obtained.

2. The PC 622 can be made available at the Washington Navy Yard for the transfer to Greece at any time after June 10, 1943.

3. If all of the Greek crew have not arrived by the date of transfer, it will be necessary for nineteen United States Navy enlisted men of appropriate ratings to be assigned temporarily to the PC 622. The Commanding Officer of the school at Miami reports the Greek crew is very good, and he believes he can get volunteers from our Navy to temporarily supplement the Greek crew.

4. Information is requested:
   
   (a) On what date it is desired that the transfer take place.

   (b) Who will accept the boat for the Greek Government.

(signed) Admiral Horne, Chief Naval Operations
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**COMMENT**

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DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5800.9 (9/27/59)

Date- 2/6/59
Signature- Carl L. Spicer

File No. L11 - 4 (2)
WASHINGTON

June 23, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUDGET:

FOR RECOMMENDATION.

F.D.R.

Confidential memorandum for the President from the Secretary of the Navy, 6/18/43 in re Enlisted Strength, Navy, December 31, 1943.
CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

Subject: Enlisted Strength, Navy, December 31, 1943.

1. On September 30, 1942, the Joint Chiefs of Staff recommended personnel for the Armed Services for calendar year 1943 (to December 31, 1943). Enlisted requirements for the Navy of 2,000,000 men were recommended. Your endorsement thereon approved the recommendation for planning for personnel and indicated that additional funds for increases in personnel will be approved later from time to time if they are needed.

2. In your memorandum of November 16, 1942, you authorized an average of 1,850,000 enlisted men for budgetary purposes for fiscal 1944, to be reached on December 31, 1943.

3. The Operating Force Plan for fiscal 1944, approved November 20, 1942, and latest revision thereof indicates a requirement of 2,500,000 enlisted men by June 30, 1944.

4. Extended operations make it necessary to procure and train men to meet requirements at a rate which will attain the 2,000,000 men recommended by the Joint Chiefs of Staff by December 31, 1943.

5. In order to continue orderly procurement and training it is requested that the authorized number of 1,850,000 enlisted men be increased to 2,000,000 men, an increase of 150,000, to be reached on December 31, 1943.

Very respectfully,

The President,
The White House.

18 June 1943.

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DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.2 (9/27/59)
Date- 2/6/59
Signature- Carl S. Spicer
MEMORANDUM FOR:

The President.

Attached hereto for your signature is a Legion of Merit (degree of officer) Certificate, awarded posthumously to Lieut. Kenneth Lindsay Molyneux, Brazilian Air Force. This award was approved by you on 22 June, 1943.

In conformity with your instructions and with the practice of the War Department, the State Department has been consulted and has no objection to this award.

Very respectfully,

WILSON BROWN

x 50-13

x 11-A
x 357-X
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

1. There is forwarded herewith for the signature of the President, one (1) Legion of Merit Certificate awarding the Legion of Merit, degree of Officer to Lieutenant Kenneth Lindsay Molyneaux, Brazilian Air Force.

2. The State Department was consulted and had no objection to this award. This award has previously had your approval on June 22, 1943.

James Forrestal

Signed 1-3-43
Rtd to Navy 7-5-43
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

1. There is forwarded herewith for your approval a recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals for the award of the Legion of Merit in the degree of Officer to Lieutenant Kenneth Lindsay Holynseux, Brazilian Air Force, in recognition of his outstanding service to the Government of the United States.

2. It will be noted that the Secretary of the Navy has approved the recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals.

Respectfully,

Frank Knox

[Confidential]

16 June 1943

(52/P15/EF12)

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)
Date- 2/6/59
Signature- Carl S. Spaatz

Copy for White House Files
Orig. with: Dec. Navy 6-22-43
June 11, 1943.

From: The Secretary of the Navy.

To: The Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals.

Subject: Lieutenant Kenneth Lindsay Molyneux, Brazilian Air Force—Posthumous Award of Legion of Merit (Officer), Recommendation for.

1. Returned, approved.

2. Please prepare the necessary letter of transmittal to the President requesting his approval of this award.

/s/ Frank Knox
NAVY DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON

10 June, 1943.

CONFIDENTIAL

SECOND ENDORSEMENT
to VCNO conf. ltr. Op-16-F
P15/KF12 Ser. 01408616
dated May 31, 1943.

From: The Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals.

To: The Secretary of the Navy.

Via: (1) (2)

Subject: Lieutenant Kenneth Lindsay Molyneux, Brazilian Air Force - Posthumous Award of Legion of Merit (Officer), Recommendation for.

Reference:

1. Considered at the meeting of the Board of Decorations and Medals held June 3, 1943.

2. Recommendation: That Lieutenant Kenneth Lindsay Molyneux, Brazilian Air Force, be posthumously awarded the Legion of Merit, degree of Officer, in recognition of his outstanding performance of duty as set forth in the basic correspondence.

3. Attention is invited to the fact that this correspondence contains a matter of interest to the President.

H. G. Patrick,
By direction of the Board of Decorations and Medals.

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/6/59
Signature- Carl F. Spencer

Copy to:
Bd. of Dec. & Medals.
CONFIDENTIAL

FIRST ENDORSEMENT to
VCNO Conf. Ltr. Op-16-F
P15/EF12 Serial 01408616
dated May 31, 1943.

From: The Chief of Naval Personnel.

To: The Secretary of the Navy (Board of Decorations and Medals).

Subject: Lieutenant Kenneth Lindsay Molyneux, Brazilian Air Force - Posthumous Award of Legion of Merit (Officer), Recommendation for.

1. Forwarded for consideration and recommendation.

RANDALL JACOBS,
Chief of Naval Personnel.

H. G. Patrick,
By direction.

Date- 2/6/59

[Signature: Carl L. Spencer]
From: Vice Chief of Naval Operations
To: Chief of Naval Personnel
(Board of Decoration and Medals)

Subject: Lieutenant Kenneth Lindsay Molyneux, Brazilian Air Force - Posthumous Award of Legion of Merit (Officer), Recommendation for.

References:
(a) Op-16-FL Memo to DNI, Serial 1984116, dated May 4, 1943.
(b) U. S. Naval Observer, Belem, Brazil Intelligence Report, Serial 23-43, dated March 6, 1943.
(c) VCNO Ltr. (Op-13-B-1/hjm), Serial 2813 dated February 6, 1943.

Enclosures:
(A) Copy of reference (a).
(B) Copy of reference (b).

1. References (a) and (b) relate the activities of subject officer in furtherance of U.S. Naval activities in Brazil.

2. This material has been reviewed by the Screening Board for the Legion of Merit Medal in accordance with the provisions of reference (c).

3. It is recommended that subject officer be awarded posthumously the Legion of Merit Medal, grade of Officer.

/s/ W. O. Spears
W. O. Spears
By Direction

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)
Date 2/6/59
Signature Carl L. Speer
MEMORANDUM

From: Officer in Charge, Brazilian Section.
To: Director of Naval Intelligence.
Via: (1) Op-16-FL
      (2) Op-16-F
      (3) Op-16-1-F
      (4) Op-16-1

Subject: Posthumous Recommendation of Lieutenant Kenneth Lindsay Molyneux, Brazilian Air Force, for a suitable United States decoration.

Reference: (a) U.S. Naval Observer, Belem, Brazil Report 23-43, March 6, 1943.

1. Subject officer, Lieutenant Molyneux of the Brazilian Air Force, was killed about March 1, 1943, near Amapa, Brazil, while making an emergency landing in a North American plane which he was ferrying from the United States for the Brazilian Air Corps.

2. Previously, he had served as aide to the Commander of the First Air Zone, with headquarters at Belem, State of Para. During his assignment there, a period of about five months, he was of immense assistance to the United States, rendering innumerable services to our Consular, Army and Naval personnel in that area. A brief summary of Lieutenant Molyneux's services follows:

(a) He was of invaluable assistance to both the United States Army and Navy in locating planes lost in the area, in transferring survivors to Belem from outlying points, generally making all flights personally, many of them extremely hazardous, over jungle area.

(b) He was instrumental in supplying planes from the Brazilian Force for our use, in numerous emergencies; he also furnished our services with much useful military aviation information.

(c) As stated in reference (a), he distinguished himself in qualifying as a P.B.Y. pilot in record time.
Subject: Posthumous Recommendation of Lieutenant Kenneth Lindsay Molyneux, Brazilian Air Force, for a suitable United States decoration.

By reason of his thorough mastery of English, which he spoke and wrote fluently, his services as a Brazilian-American Liaison Officer were invaluable, not only to the United States Navy but to the United States Army Air Corps (A. T. C.), and to the U. S. Consul at Para. This will be confirmed by Lieutenant Colonel Lloyd E. Arnold (A. C.), U. S. A., commanding the Air Field (A. T. C.) at Belem and also by the U. S. Consul, Mr. Edward D. McLaughlin.

3. In recognition of this unusual record of services rendered, many of which were beyond the ordinary call of duty, and in view of the high esteem in which Lieutenant Molyneux was held by both Brazilian and American officials, it is recommended that he be posthumously nominated for a suitable United States Military or Naval Decoration.

Edward Bres.
After arriving at Belem Air Base on March 2, an N.A.T.S. plane made a special trip to drop some food to a P-38 pilot stranded with his plane on the Island of Marajo. While on the trip, the plane also dropped instructions to the rescue party directing them to the stranded plane. Alusob's Gruman Amphibian (JRF-5) also made two flights over the Island of Marajo to assist the rescue party in reaching the downed P-38 plane.

One of the PBY-5 Catalinas temporarily assigned to this office made a trip with several U.S. Army officers from the Army Air Base in a search for missing planes. The search was unsuccessful but a previously unexplored sector was covered by the flight.

Most of the U.S. Army planes at Val-de-Cans have been grounded for the past three days while awaiting arrival of 100-Octane gasoline due over the weekend. The Army is holding up planes at other fields until such time that planes at Belem Base can be moved on.

The fifth lend-lease PBY-5 arrived in Belem and is now beached at the Navy ramp at Val-de-Cans Air Base. The plane has been inventoried and signed over to the U.S. Naval Observer, and the ferry crew returned to Miami via N.A.T.S.

Information is as yet incomplete but five Brazilian Fairchild training planes being ferried from the United States to Brazil were forced down in the vicinity of Amapa Air Base. A more detailed report will be sent in as soon as further information is available. It is understood the planes are down approximately ten miles from Amapa. 1st Lt. Kenneth Molyneaux a very good friend of Alusob Belem and pilot of one of these planes, was killed in making a forced landing. So far as it is known, the other pilots came through unhurt or with minor injuries. Lt. Molyneaux was on duty in Belem for a number of months prior to his departure for the United States during which time he was aid to Colonel Appel Neto, Commandant of the First Air Zone in Brazil. He was a very splendid officer and considered very capable in his profession as a flier. He was widely acquainted among the Americans in Belem and extremely popular with them all. During the month of December, 1942 he spent considerable time with Patrol Squadron VP-83 and checked-off in the operations of PBY-5A's.
O. N. I. (Two advance copies Alusna Ric; one to Consolant).

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He lacked only a few hours in order to qualify as a patrol plane commander. On his return from the States he was to be assigned to the Brazilian PBY-5's now at the Navy ramp to instruct Brazilian pilots and crews. His untimely death will prove to be a serious handicap in the operation of the Catalinas (PBY-5's).
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 2, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR:

The President.

Attached hereto is a recommendation for
the award of the Legion of Merit (degree of
Commander) to Rear Admiral Alfredo Carlos
Soares Dutra, Brazilian Navy, in recognition
of his outstanding service to the Government
of the United States. (Untiring in his efforts
to advance the efficiency of the combined
operations of the U.S. and Brazilian Navies.)

In conformity with your instructions and
with the practice of the War Department, the
State Department has been consulted and has no
objection to this award.

I recommend approval.

If you approve this award, it is requested
that the attached Certificate be signed.

Very respectfully,

[Signature]

WILSON BROWN

[Date]
THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
WASHINGTON  

CONFIDENTIAL  
30 June 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

1. There is forwarded herewith for your approval a recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals for the award of the Legion of Merit in the degree of Commander to Rear Admiral Alfredo Carlos Soares Dutra, Brazilian Navy, in recognition of his outstanding service to the Government of the United States.

2. It will be noted that the Secretary of the Navy has approved the recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals. The State Department has been consulted and has no objection to this award.

3. If the President approves this award, it is requested that the attached Certificate be signed.

James Forrestal

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)  
Date: 2/9/59  
Signature: Carl S. Spaar

Certificate signed 7-3-43  
Att to Navy 7-5-43
FOURTH ENDORSEMENT to
ComFourth Flt. Conf.
ltr. Pl5 Serial 0467
of 2 June, 1943.

From: The Senior Member of the Navy Department Board of
Decorations and Medals.

To: The Secretary of the Navy.

Subject: Recommendation for Award for Rear Admiral
Alfredo Carlos Soares Dutra, B.N.

1. The Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals at a
special meeting on 25 June, 1943 considered the subject case and recom-
mended that Rear Admiral Alfredo Carlos Soares Dutra, Brazilian Navy,
be awarded the Legion of Merit, degree of Commander, in recognition of
his outstanding performance of duty and meritorious service to the
Government of the United States.

A. E. WATSON

APPROVED: JUNE 29, 1943

/s/ FORRESTAL
Secretary of the Navy

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DOD*DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)
Date- 2/9/59
Signature- Carl I. Spicer
COMINCH FILE
FF1/F15(28)(D) HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF
NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D.C.
Serial: 02058

CONFIDENTIAL

THIRD ENDORSEMENT to
ComFourth Flt. Conf.
1tr. F15 Serial 0467
of 2 June, 1943.

From: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet,
and Chief of Naval Operations.
To: Secretary of the Navy.
Subject: Recommendation for Award for Rear Admiral
Alfredo Carlos Soares Dutra, B.N.

1. Forwarded, concurring in the second endorsement.

E. J. KING.

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)
Date- 2/9/59
Signature- Earl I. Spencer

Copy-vbs
From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.
(Via: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.

Subject: Recommendation for Award for Rear Admiral Alfredo Carlos Soares Dutra, B.N.

1. It is understood that the Navy Distinguished Service Medal will be awarded to foreigners only under most exceptional circumstances and that, therefore, a Legion of Merit Award would be more appropriate in this case.

2. In view of the above, the Vice Chief of Naval Operations recommends the award of the Legion of Merit, grade of Commander, for subject officer.

F. J. HORNE

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature- Carl R. Spicer

Copy-vbs
FIRST ENDORSEMENT to
ComFourthFleet
1tr Pl5 Serial 0487
of 2 June, 1943.

From: Commander in Chief, United States Atlantic Fleet.
To : The Secretary of the Navy.
Via : Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.
Subject: Recommendation for Award for Rear Admiral Alfredo
Carolos Soars Dutra, B.N.

1. Forwarded for consideration.

2. A question of policy is involved in this recommendation, inasmuch as other officers of foreign navies are now operating with U.S. Naval Forces, or have operated under U.S. Naval Forces.
From: The Commander, FOURTH FLEET.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.
Via: (1) The Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Atlantic Fleet.
       (2) The Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Fleet.

Subject: Recommendation for Award for Rear Admiral Alfredo Carolos Soars Dutra, B.N.

1. Rear Admiral Alfredo Carolos Soars Dutra, Brazilian Navy, is the Commander of the Brazilian Naval Forces afloat under my operational direction. He has been untiring in his efforts to advance the efficiency of the combined operations of the U.S. and Brazilian Navies, and has effectively cooperated with me on every occasion.

2. Rear Admiral Dutra's performance of duty has been outstanding in every respect. He is one of Brazil's most distinguished naval officers, and, as the first Commander of Brazilian Naval Forces operating with U.S. Fleet units, he has been extremely successful in bringing about mutual cooperation and collaboration between those forces.

3. In view of his noteworthy achievements, and contributions to the successful war-effort of the United Nations in the South Atlantic, the Commander, FOURTH FLEET recommends that Rear Admiral Dutra be awarded the Distinguished Service Medal:

"For great ability and tireless effort as Commander of Brazilian Naval Forces operating with the FOURTH FLEET. Admiral Dutra by his outstanding performance of duty in a position of great responsibility has distinguished himself by meritorious service to the Government of the United States and the allied cause.

JONAS H. INGRAM, Roosevelt Library
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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/69)

Copy---at 6 01344

Date-- 2/9/59
Signature-- Carl T. Spencer
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
July 2, 1943.
MEMORANDUM FOR:
The President.

Attached hereto is a recommendation for the award of the Legion of Merit (degree of officer) to Lieutenant Commander H. A. MacKenzie, Royal Australian Naval Reserve, in recognition of his outstanding service to the Government of the United States. (Organizing and supervising a coast watching service in the Solomons Islands during the current war.)

In conformity with your instructions and with the practice of the War Department, the State Department has been consulted and has no objection to this award.

I recommend approval.

If you approve this award, it is requested that the attached Certificate be signed.

Very respectfully,

WILLIAM J. DURHAM

Wilson Brown
7-3-43
CONFIDENTIAL

30 June 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

1. There is forwarded herewith for your approval a recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals for the award of the Legion of Merit in the degree of Officer to Lieutenant Commander W. A. MacKenzie, Royal Australian Naval Reserve, in recognition of his outstanding service to the Government of the United States.

2. It will be noted that the Secretary of the Navy has approved the recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals. The State Department has been consulted and has no objection to this award.

3. If the President approves this award, it is requested that the attached Certificate be signed.

[Signature]

[Certificate signed 7-3-43]

[Return to Navy 7-5-43]
TO: The Secretary of the Navy.

VIA:

1. Forwarded, concurring in the recommendation of the Board of Decorations and Medals.

2. This correspondence contains a recommendation for the award of the Legion of Merit to a foreigner which is a matter of interest to the President of the United States.

APPROVED: APR 9 1943

NAVY DEPARTMENT

Frank Knox
Secretary of the Navy.
Fourth Endorsement

to ComAmphibForSoPac conf. ltr.
FE25/P15, Serial 022, dated
Jan. 14, 1943.

From: The Senior Member of the Navy Department
To: The Secretary of the Navy.

(1) The Chief of Naval Personnel.
(2) Board of Decorations and Medals.

Subject: Award of Distinguished Service Medal to Lieutenant Commander
H. A. MacKENZIE, RANR.

Reference:

1. Considered at the meeting of the Board of Decorations and Medals
held March 18, 1943.

2. Recommendation: That Lieutenant Commander H. A. MacKENZIE, Royal
Australian Naval Reserve, be awarded the Legion of Merit, degree of Officer,
in recognition of his service in connection with the organization and supervi-
sion of a coast watching service in the Solomon Islands during the current
war.

A. E. WATSON

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DOD DIR 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date: 2/7/59
Signature: [Signature]

Copy to:
Bld of Dec & Medals

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UNITED STATES FLEET
Headquarters of the Commander in Chief
Navy Department, Washington, D.C.

FF1/P15
Serial: 0562

FEB 22 1943

CONFIDENTIAL

THIRD ENDORSEMENT to
ComAmphlbForSoF Pac Conf.
Ltr. FE25/P15, Serial
022, dated 1/14/43.

From: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.
Subject: Award of Distinguished Service Medal to
Lieutenant Commander H. A. MacKENZIE, RANR.

1. Forwarded.

2. The award of the Distinguished Service Medal, if it can
be legally done, is considered appropriate.

/s/ R. S. EDWARDS,
Chief of Staff.

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date: 2/14/59
Signature: Carl J. Spees

Copied HBY
6 26 1943
SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE
Of the United States Pacific Fleet
Headquarters of the Commander

In the name of the President of the United States, the Secretary of the Navy takes pleasure in presenting the DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL to

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER H.A. MACKENZIE, ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVAL RESERVE

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

"For distinguished service to the United Nations by his untiring efforts in connection with the organization and supervision of a coast watching service in the SOLOMON ISLANDS. This organization, under the immediate supervision and command of Lieutenant Commander MACKENZIE, has given many timely warnings to the United Nations Forces of the movement of hostile aerial, land, and naval forces. These warnings were of particular value on August eighth and November twelfth, nineteen hundred forty-two, when they enabled United Nation Forces to avoid serious losses to themselves and to inflict heavy damage to the enemy. He successfully carried out his duties despite great personal danger and hardship caused by repeated enemy air attacks and naval bombardments on the vicinity of his headquarters. His conduct throughout has been in keeping with the finest traditions of naval services of the highest character."

FRANK KNOX,
Secretary of the Navy.

Proposed Temporary Citation.

Copied HEX
6 26 1943
U.S.S. ARGONNE, Flagship,
14 JAN 1943

From: Commander Amphibious Force, South Pacific.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.
Via: (1) Commander South Pacific Area and South Pacific Force.
(2) Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.
(3) Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Fleet.

Subject: Award of Distinguished Service Medal to Lieutenant Commander H. A. MacKENZIE, RANR.

Enclosure: (A) Suggested citation to accompany award.

1. It is recommended that Lieutenant Commander H.A. MacKENZIE, R.A.N.R. be awarded a Distinguished Service Medal.

2. Lieutenant Commander MacKENZIE is the District Supervising Intelligence Officer at GUADALCANAL for the Australian Coast Watching Service. His efforts and those of the officers and men under him have been of great value in parrying the blows of the Japanese and have directly aided in inflicting serious aerial and naval losses on the enemy.

/s/ R. K. TURNER

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DOD DIR. 5200.9-(9/27/58)

Date- 2/7/59
Signature- Carl I. Speer

Copy to: Commsowespac for delivery to Australian Naval Board.

Copied HERE 6 26 1943
COMSOPAC FILE

SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE

OF THE UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET

HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER

Serial 097

CONFIDENTIAL

FIRST ENDORSEMENT to

ComAmphibFor, SoPac Conf.,

ltr., FE25/P15 Serial 022
dated 14 January 1943.

From: The Commander South Pacific Area and

South Pacific Force.

To: The Secretary of the Navy.

Via: (1) Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet.

(2) Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Fleet.

Subject: Award of Distinguished Service Medal to

Lieutenant Commander H. A. MacKENZIE, RANR.

1. Forwarded, strongly recommending approval.

/s/ W. F. HALSEY

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/7/59

Signature- Carl I. Spicer

Copied HBY

6 26 1943
From: The Commander in Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.
Via: The Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet.

Subject: Award of Distinguished Service Medal to Lieutenant Commander H. A. MacKenzie, RANR.

1. Forwarded, recommending approval.

/s/ C. W. Nimitz
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

The attached memoranda to me from the Commandant, U. S. Marine Corps, and from the Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet, and Chief of Naval Operations indicate the necessity of the increase of 3,000 officers in the Marine Corps. This increase was approved by you on 25 February 1943 for planning purposes but the translation from approved planning strength to authorized actual strength was withheld pending the completion of the "Troop Bases" study which from present indications will not be ready for some months.

The authorization of these additional officers involves young men already in the Service.

The Marine Corps requires this increase to meet officer requirements for its present authorized enlisted strength and I respectfully recommend your approval.

s/ JAMES FORRESTAL

James Forrestal
Acting Secretary of the Navy

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DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/4/59
Signature- Care L. Spencer

Origined to
Hm James Forrestal 7-10-43

July 10, 1943.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

1. There is forwarded herewith for your approval a recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals for the award of the Legion of Merit in the degree of Legionnaire to Squadron Leader Charles Widdy, Royal Australian Air Force, and Lieutenant Gordon Howe, Royal Australian Naval Reserve, in recognition of their outstanding service to the Government of the United States.

2. It will be noted that the Secretary of the Navy has approved the recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals. The State Department has been consulted and has no objection to these awards.

3. If the President approves these awards it is requested that the attached Certificates be signed.

Frank Knox

[Signature]

[Note: Both certificates signed and returned to Navy 7-13-43]
Sixth Endorsement

to Asst. Intell. Officer,
Staff, ComSoPac conf.
ltr. of Mar 17, 1943.

From: The Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals

To: The Secretary of the Navy.

Via: (1)
(2)

Subject: Awards to Squadron Leader Charles Widdy, RAAF, and Lieutenant Gordon Howe, RANR, recommendation for.

Reference:

1. Considered at the meeting of the Board of Decorations and Medals held 1 July 1943.

2. Recommendation: That Squadron Leader Charles Widdy, RAAF, and Lieutenant Gordon Howe, RANR, be awarded the Legion of Merit, degree of legionnaire in recognition of their outstanding service in connection with the Russell Islands reconnaissance on 12 February 1943 during which they volunteered to accompany the party in the capacity of guide and pilot, respectively.

/s/ A. E. WATSON

Navy Department
APPROVED JUL 9 1943

/s/ Forrestal
Secretary of the Navy

Copy to:
Dec & Medals
FIFTH ENDORSEMENT to
Asst. Intell. Officer, Staff, ComSoPac conf. ltr. of March 17, 1943.

From: The Chief of Naval Personnel.
To: The Secretary of the Navy (Board of Decorations and Medals).
Subject: Awards to Squadron Leader Charles Widdy, RAAF, and Lieutenant Gordon Howe, RANR, recommendation for.

1. Forwarded for consideration and recommendation.

RANDALL JACOBS
Chief of Naval Personnel

/s/ H. G. Patrick
By direction
COMINCH FILE

THIRD ENDORSEMENT to
Asst. Intell. Officer,
Staff, ComSoPac conf.
ltr. of March 17, 1943.

From: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet, and
Chief of Naval Operations.

To: Secretary of the Navy.

Via: Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

Subject: Awards to Squadron Leader Charles Widdy, RAAF,
and Lieutenant Gordon Howe, RANR, recommendation for.

1. Forwarded, concurring in the recommendation of the
Commander in Chief, United States Pacific Fleet.

/s/ E. J. KING.
From: Commander in Chief, United States Pacific Fleet.
To: Secretary of the Navy.
Via: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.

Subject: Awards to Squadron Leader Charles Widdy, RAAF, and Lieutenant Gordon Howe, RANR, recommendation for.

1. Forwarded, concurring with the recommendation of the Commander South Pacific Force in the first endorsement that Squadron Leader Charles Widdy, RAAF, and Lieutenant Gordon Howe, RANR, be awarded the Legion of Merit, Degree of Legionnaire.

/s/ C. W. NIMITZ
SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE
of the United States Pacific Fleet
Headquarters of the Commander

FIRST ENDORSEMENT to
Asst.Intell.Officer's
Staff,ComSoPac Conf.
Ltr. dated March 17,
1943.

From: The Commander South Pacific Area and
South Pacific Force.

To: The Secretary of the Navy.

Via: The Commander in Chief, U.S. PACIFIC
FLEET.

Subject: Awards to Squadron Leader Charles WIDDY,
RAAF, and Lieut. Gordon HOWE, RANR, re-
commendation for.

1. Forwarded, recommending the award of the
Legion of Merit, Fourth Degree to the subject mentioned
officers.

/s/ T. S. WILKINSON,
Deputy Commander,
South Pacific
SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE
of the United States Pacific Fleet
Headquarters of the Commander

March 17, 1943.

From: Assistant Intelligence Officer,
Staff, Commander South Pacific Force.
To: The Commander South Pacific Force.

Subject: Awards to Squadron Leader Charles Widdy,
RAAF, and Lieut. Gordon Howe, RANR,
recommendation for.

1. When the Russell Islands reconnaissance was
planned both Squadron Leader Charles Widdy, RAAF, and Lieut.
Gordon Howe, RANR, volunteered to accompany the party, in
the capacity of guide and pilot, respectively. At this time
the enemy held the Russells. On the night of February 12,
1943, our reconnaissance party proceeded from Guadalcanal in
a captured Japanese sampan - on the same course on which the
Japanese were evacuating Guadalcanal - and landed at Wernham
Cove, Banika Island. This landing was made possible only by
Lieut. Howe's superb navigation of the sampan through miles
of inadequately charted reefs, in darkness. The success of
the reconnaissance was due in a large measure to Squadron
Leader Widdy's knowledge of the islands. Our report to
Admiral Turner covered landing beaches (water depths, etc.);
camp locations; water supply; and possible airfield sites.
Upon receipt of this information - which depended largely on
the judgement of Squadron Leader Widdy and Lieut. Howe - the
advance party of the Occupation Force proceeded to the
Russells.

2. Throughout the reconnaissance both officers
conducted themselves with conspicuous disregard for their
personal safety.

3. Because of this meritorious service to the
South Pacific Force and in recognition of the valuable aid
that these gallant Australians have rendered on many occas-
ions, it is respectfully recommended that Squadron Leader
Widdy and Lieutenant Howe be awarded the Navy and Marine
Corps Medal.

/s/ G. Markey,
Comdr., USNR.
MEMORANDUM FOR:

The President.

Attended hereto are a recommendation for the award of the Legion of Merit (degree of officer) to Major John Mather, Australian Military Forces, and a recommendation for the Legion of Merit (degree of legionnaire) to Sergeant Major Vouza, Guadalcanal Native Police, in recognition of their outstanding services to the Government of the United States.

In conformity with your instructions and with the practice of the War Department, the State Department has been consulted and has no objection to these awards.

I recommend approval.

If you approve of these awards, it is requested that the attached certificates be signed.

Very respectfully,

[Signature]

WILSON BROWN
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

1. There are forwarded herewith for your approval a recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals for the award of the Legion of Merit, degree of Officer, to Major John Mather, Australian Military Forces, and a recommendation for the Legion of Merit, degree of Legionnaire, to Sergeant Major Vouza, Guadalcanal Native Police, in recognition of their outstanding services to the Government of the United States.

2. It will be noted that the Secretary of the Navy has approved the recommendations of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals. The State Department has been consulted and has no objection to these awards.

3. If the President approves these awards it is requested that the attached Certificates be signed.

John F. Kennedy

Both certificates signed and return to
Navy 7-13-43

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (8/27/59)

Date- 2/9/59
Signature- (Redacted)
HEADQUARTERS, U. S. MARINE CORPS, WASHINGTON, D.C., JUN 12 1943

From: The Commandant, U. S. Marine Corps.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.

Subject: Recommendation for the award of the Legion of Merit in the cases of Major John Mather, Australian Army, and Sergeant Major Vouza, Guadalcanal Native Police.

1. Forwarded.

/s/ H. Schmidt
H. SCHMIDT
Acting

Approved
JUN 15 1943

/s/ Frank Knox
Secretary of the Navy.
FRANK KNOX
Fifth Endorsement
60, 2nd Dir Min, 1st MAC conf.
ltr.BNO/gag, of Dec.27, 1942.

From: The Senior Member of the Navy Department

To: The Secretary of the Navy.

Via: (1) The Commandant, U. S. Marine Corps.
     (2) Board of Decorations and
         Medals.

Subject: Recommendation for commutation for Major John Mother, Australian Army and Sergeant Major Youss, Guadalcanal Native Police.

Reference:

1. Considered at the meeting of the Board of Awards held May 6, 1943.

2. Recommendation:

   (a) That Major John Mother, Australian Army, be awarded the Legion of Merit, Degree of Officer, in recognition of his outstanding service with the Second Marine Raider Battalion during their operations on Guadalcanal during the period November 4 to December 4, 1942, as set forth in the basic correspondence.

   (b) That Sergeant Major Youss, Guadalcanal Native Police, be awarded the Legion of Merit, Degree of Legioneer, in recognition of his extraordinary heroism and meritorious service while voluntarily serving with the Second Marine Raider Battalion during operations on Guadalcanal during the period from November 4 to December 4, 1942.

Attention is invited to the fact that Sergeant Major Youss was awarded a Silver Star Medal, for heroism on August 7th and August 27th, in accordance with the approval of the President of the United States.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

A. E. Harmon
Senior Member

E. G. Patrick
By direction

Copy to:

E of Des & Medals (2)
U. S. Marine Corps

Date- 9/9/59

Signature- Carl T. Spaar
UNITED STATES FLEET
HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF
NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D.C.

FF1/P15-(27)
Serial: 01301

APR 30 1943

RESTRIC TED

FOURTH ENDORSEMENT to
CO, 2nd ReaderIn, 1stMAC
Conf. ltr. EFC/gg,
dated 27 December 1942.

From: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet
and Chief of Naval Operations.

To: Secretary of the Navy.

1. Forwarded, concurring in the recommendations of
the Commander in Chief, United States Pacific Fleet.
UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
FLAGSHIP OF THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF

Pac-07-wlw
P15/SOL
Serial 0816

3rd Endorsement on
CO, 2ndRdrBn, 1stMAC
Conf. Ltr. EPC/gag
dated 27 December, 1942

April 8, 1943

RESTRICTED

From: The Commander in Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.
Via: The Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet.

Subject: Recommendation for commendation for Major John Mather, Australian Army and Sergeant Major Vouza, Guadalcanal Native Police.

1. Forwarded, concurring with the recommendation of the second endorsement that Major John Mather, Australian Army be awarded the Legion of Merit, Degree of Commander.

2. The Commander in Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet, recommends that Sergeant Major Vouza, Guadalcanal Native Police be awarded the Legion of Merit, Degree of Officer.

/s/ C. W. NIMITZ.

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DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/88)
Date- 2/4/51
Signature-
SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE
of the UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER

Serial: 0525

**RESTRICTED**

SECOND ENDORSEMENT to
CO, 2nd Rdr Bn, 1st MAC
ltr dated 27 December
1942 to CG, 1st MAC.

From: The Commander South Pacific Area and South Pacific Force.

To: The Secretary of the Navy.

Via: The Commander in Chief, U. S. PACIFIC FLEET.

Subject: Recommendation for commendation for Major John MATHER, Australian Army and Sergeant Major VOUZA, Guadalcanal Native Police.

1. Forwarded, recommending the award of the Legion of Merit, Second Degree to Major John MATHER, Australian Army and to Sergeant Major VOUZA, Guadalcanal Native Police.

/s/ T. S. WILKINSON,
Deputy Commander South Pacific Area.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
DECASSIFIED
DOD Dir. 8200.9 (9/27/58)

Date: 2/9/54
Signature: Carl T. Spicer
HEADQUARTERS, 2d MARINE RAIDER BATTALION,
FIRST MARINE AMPHIBIOUS CORPS.

27 December 1942.

From: The Commanding Officer,
To: The Commanding General, 1st Marine Amphibious Corps.

Subject: Recommendation for commendation for Major John Mather,
Australian Army and Sergeant Major Vouza, Guadalcanal
Native Police.

1. It is recommended that decorations be bestowed on the
following named individuals for the acts described:

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL:
Major John Mather, Australian Army: For extraordinary
heroism and distinguished service while serving with
the Second Marine Raider Battalion during operations
on GUADALCANAL during the period 4 November to 4 Decem-
ber 1942. Major Mather was designated Chief of Native
Scouts for the period. In the performance of his
duties he manifested to an exceptionally high degree
the qualities of loyalty, energy, courage and fortitude.
Through his devoted efforts the battalion was constant-
ly well informed as to trails and other terrain features
and as to the location and condition of the enemy. At
the time of the engagement at REKO, on 7 November, Major
Mather was moving with the point. When the native scout,
POI, was wounded Major Mather, with complete disregard
for his own safety, went to him and administered first
aid. His coolness under fire and his excellent judge-
ment were a source of inspiration to all with whom he
came in contact. His conduct was in keeping with the
highest traditions of the naval service of the United
States.

SILVER STAR:
Sergeant Major Vouza, Guadalcanal Native Police: For
extraordinary heroism and meritorious service while
serving with the Second Marine Raider Battalion during
operations on GUADALCANAL during the period 9 November
to 4 December 1942. Sergeant Major Vouza offered his
services to the battalion at BINU on 10 November,
Recommendation for commendation for Major John Mather, Australian Army and Sergeant Major Youza, Guadalcanal Native Police.

being in charge of the BINU district of Native Police. Assuming responsibility for procuring and directing the natives employed as guides, scouts and carriers, his services were of inestimable value to the battalion. Volunteering to remain in this capacity for the duration of the operation he employed the native personnel with such skill and judgement that the battalion was never without needed information or carriers. In operations he invariably moved with the point, inspiring both natives and marines by his coolness under fire and his courageous and vigorous attention to the duty at hand. His conduct was in keeping with the highest traditions of the naval service of the United States.

/s/ EVANS F. CARLSON.

7/20-rah 1st Endorsement 7 January, 1943.
2245 HEADQUARTERS, FIRST MARINE AMPHIBIOUS CORPS
0009

From: The Commanding General.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.

Via: The Commander, South Pacific Area and South Pacific Force.

1. Forwarded, recommending approval.

/s/ CLAYTON B. VOGEL.
Memorandum for:
The President.

Attached hereto is a recommendation for the award of the Legion of Merit to the following Brazilian officers:

Degree of Commander

Vice Admiral José Machado de Castro e Silva, Brazilian Navy - for outstanding service and cooperation with the U.S. as former Chief of the Naval General Staff in planning and execution of measures of hemisphere defense.

Air Major Brigadier Armando Figueira Trompowsky de Almeida, Brazilian Air Force - for outstanding service and cooperation with the U.S. as the Chief of the Brazilian Air General Staff in the planning and execution of measures for hemisphere defense.

Air Brigadier Eduardo Gomes, Brazilian Air Force - for outstanding service and cooperation with the U.S. as Commander Second Air Zone in the planning and execution of measures of hemisphere defense.

Degree of Officer

Lieut.-Colonel Adolpho Pinto de Araujo Correa, Brazilian Army - for outstanding service in aiding Americans in the vicinity of Belém and for valuable information and instruction on tropical diseases given to the American units quartered at the Air Field and for timely and skillful service which saved two U.S. Marines from death by disease.

In conformity with your instructions and with the practice of the War Department, the State Department has been consulted and has no objection to these awards.

I recommend approval.

If you approve of these awards, it is requested that the attached certificates be signed.

Very respectfully,

[Signature]

Date: 2/1/59

[Signature]
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

1. There is forwarded herewith for your approval a recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals for the award of the Legion of Merit in degrees indicated to the following Brazilian Officers:

   Commander
   Vice Admiral Jose Machado de Castro e Silva, Brazilian Navy
   Air Major Brigadier Armando Figueira Trompowsky de Almedia, Brazilian Air Force
   Air Brigadier Eduardo Gomes, Brazilian Air Force

   Officer
   Lieutenant Colonel Adolpho Pinto de Araujo Correa, Brazilian Army

2. It will be noted that the Secretary of the Navy has approved the recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals. The State Department has been consulted and has no objection to these awards.

3. If the President approves these awards, it is requested that the attached Certificates be signed.

Frank Knox

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DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/59)
Date- 2/9/59
Signature- Paul S. Hieber
THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

Washington

26 July, 1943

(SC)Pl5/EF12
Serial 023700A

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

SECOND ENDORSEMENT on
VCNO Conf. Ltr. Op-13/wlch,
Serial 078913 (SC)Pl5/EF12,
dated 22 July, 1943.

From: The Secretary of the Navy.
To: The Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals.

Subject: Legion of Merit Awards to Brazilian Officers.

1. Forwarded for comment and recommendation.

s/ FRANK KNOX

Frank Knox

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.3 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/1/59
Signature- Carl L. Spicer
(4) Certificates:  

Legion of Merit, In the degree of Officer to Lieutenant Colonel Adolfo Pinto de Araújo Correia, Brazilian Army

Legion of Merit, In the degree of Commander to Vice Admiral José Machado de Castro e Silva Brazilian Army

Legion of Merit, In the degree of Commander to Air Brigadier Eduardo Gomes, Brazilian Air Force

Legion of Merit, In the degree of Commander to Air Major Brigadier Armando Figueira Trompowsky de Almeida Brazilian Air Force

(Signed 7/29/43)  

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

Ret'd Navy 7/30/43
MEMORANDUM FOR

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

Replying to your memorandum of 29 July 1943, the following strengths for the Navy and Marine Corps, to be reached by December 31, 1943, are approved:

**Navy**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Strength</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Officers</td>
<td>200,978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Officer candidates</td>
<td>120,282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enlisted men</td>
<td>2,092,960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurses</td>
<td>6,750</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Marine Corps**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Strength</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Officers</td>
<td>29,465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Officer candidates</td>
<td>12,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enlisted men</td>
<td>370,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These strengths are to include all personnel on active duty in the Navy and Marine Corps. Recommendations for strengths to be reached subsequent to December 31, 1943 will be submitted to me later through the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

(Signed) Franklin D. Roosevelt
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Pursuant to the instructions in General Watson's memorandum of July 30, 1943, the following recommendations are made with respect to the authorized strength of the Navy and Marine Corps as of December 31, 1943, based on the memorandum of the Secretary of the Navy and approved by Admiral Leahy:

**Navy**

Officers. A total strength of 200,978 is recommended. The estimates and appropriations for the current fiscal year provide for a strength of 194,000 officers. The proposed increase therefore is 6,978, and it is recommended that this slight increase be approved.

Officer candidates. The strength recommended is 120,282. The appropriation for the current year was based on a strength of 122,218 so that this recommendation represents a slight reduction below that approved in the estimates.

Nurses. The recommendation of 6,750 involves no increase over the previously authorized number of nurses and the number appropriated for in the current appropriation act.

Enlisted men. The recommendation for 2,092,960 men as the strength to be reached on December 31, 1943 is 242,960 in excess of the previously approved strength as of that date. The previous directive fixing the authorized strength of the Navy established 1,850,000 as the number to be reached on December 31, 1943, and this is the number used in submitting the estimates for the current fiscal year. It is recommended that this increase be allowed and it may be necessary subsequently to authorize additional personnel over and above the peak strength of 2,250,000 fixed for planning purposes as the maximum on June 30, 1944.

**Marine Corps**

Officers. The proposed number of 29,465 represents no increase over the number of officers presently authorized for the Marine Corps, including female Marine officers.

Officer candidates. The recommended number of 12,000 is a slight reduction below the average of 13,500 approved in a previous directive.

Enlisted men. The proposed number of 370,500 is an increase of 24,000 over the presently approved enlisted strength of 346,500, including 12,000 female Marines. It is recommended that this increase be approved in order to carry out directives which have been issued to the Marine Corps by higher authority.

(Signed) Wayne Coy

Director
Miss Felly

The Navy would be most appreciative if the attached could be approved before the President leaves on July 30th.

William T. Freeman
July 30, 1943

Respectfully referred to the Director of the Bureau of the Budget for recommendation to the President.

EDWIN M. WATSON
Major General, U.S. Army
Secretary to the President

Memo for the President, 7/29/43, from William D. Leahy, The Joint Chiefs of Staff, marked "Secret", encl memo from the Sec. of the Navy to the President, 7/29/43, re authorization for Naval Personnel.
Send to
Director of the Budget
for recommendation.
Respectfully referred to the
Director of the Bureau of
the Budget for recommendation
thereon to the Pres.

[Signature]
SECRET

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

Subject: Authorization for Naval Personnel.

Enclosure: Memorandum from Secretary of the Navy to the President, dated 29 July 1943.

Attached hereto is a request submitted by the Secretary of the Navy for certain increases of personnel as of 31 December, 1943.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff have given this matter careful study and feel that the increases requested are justified. They forward the request to you recommending approval.

For the Joint Chiefs of Staff:

(Signed) WILLIAM D. LEAHY

WILLIAM D. LEAHY, Admiral, U.S. Navy, Chief of Staff to the Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy.
SECRET

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Via: The Joint U. S. Chiefs of Staff

1. Additional personnel needs for the Navy and Marine Corps have arisen since the last study of overall troop bases made by the Joint U. S. Chiefs of Staff and approved by you on September 30, 1942. These additional needs have been occasioned primarily by the following:

(a) Increase in combatant ship construction program and increase in complements of ships already built.

(b) Increase in armed guard and communication liaison units, due to increase in merchant ship construction program.

(c) Increase of advance base projects.

(d) Increased amphibious combat units required in the Pacific.

(e) Needs for additional officer candidates incident to the College Training Program.

2. Additional personnel needs for the Navy and Marine Corps, to December 31, 1943, are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>NAVY</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Officers:</td>
<td>Increased from 151,975 to 200,975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Officer Candidates:</td>
<td>Increased from 41,000 to 120,282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enlisted:</td>
<td>Increased from 2,000,000 to 2,092,960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurses:</td>
<td>Increased from 6,750 to 6,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggregate:</td>
<td>Increased from 2,199,725 to 2,420,970</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MARINE CORPS</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Officers:</td>
<td>Increased from 25,715 to 29,465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Officer Candidates:</td>
<td>Increased from 2,000 to 12,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enlisted:</td>
<td>Increased from 334,500 to 370,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggregate:</td>
<td>Increased from 362,215 to 411,965</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Respectfully,

(Signed) FRANK KNOX

Date- 2/3/59

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

The Acting Secretary of the Navy recommends that Commander Ernest Ward, Medical Corps, U.S.N., be placed on furlough because of alleged action bringing discredit to his uniform. It seems impracticable to try him by court martial and Admiral McIntire has recommended the above action.

I agree.

Very respectfully,

s/ W. Brown

WILSON BROWN

OK

F. D. R.

August 10, 1943.
CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

In June 1940 the President suggested the desirability of adopting a plan whereby captains and commanders on the active list whose performance of duty may fall below the required high standard could be placed on furlough.

The then Acting Secretary of the Navy, Mr. Lewis Compton, advised the President that a plan could be initiated whereby each Bureau Chief would, at periodic intervals, submit recommendations for personnel under his immediate cognizance to the Secretary of the Navy, via the Chief of the Bureau of Navigation (now Chief of Naval Personnel) and the Chief of Naval Operations. He recommended, however, that no formal plan, as such, be adopted during the present emergency in lieu of which he stated to the President "I shall recommend to you that the law be invoked in those cases which may develop wherein the best interest of the Navy will be served by its application."

The President, in approving the suggested plan, authorized withholding the formal establishment of it in the present emergency, but added the following admonition: "However it must be understood that Bureau Chiefs are not relieved of the responsibility of recommending for furlough at any time, any officer under their cognizance of the rank of captain or commander whose performance of duty is below the required high standard."

In accordance with the foregoing, I wish to inform you that I propose to place Commander Ernest Ward, Medical Corps, U.S. Navy, on furlough on 15 August, 1943.

The formal report of the reasons for the above action is attached hereto.

Respectfully,

[Signature]

James Forrestal
Acting
CONFIDENTIAL

4 - AUG 1943

From: BuPers.
To: SecNav.

Subj: Comdr. Ernest WARD, MC, USN. - release from active duty and placing on furlough, recommendation for.

1. In view of the statements contained in the basic correspondence, the Chief of Naval Personnel recommends that Commander Ernest Ward, Medical Corps, U.S. Navy, be relieved from active duty, ordered home, and placed on furlough effective 15 August, 1943, in accordance with Section 1442 of the Revised Statutes.

RANDALL JACOBS
The Chief of Naval Personnel

Encl.
A. Confidential Memo from SecNav to the President with attachment of basic correspondence.

Date: 2/3/59
Signature: Carl L. Spencer
MEMORANDUM FOR:

The President.

There are forwarded herewith for your approval recommendations for the award of the Legion of Merit in degrees indicated to the following foreign officers:

Commander -- Commodoro Julio Bies Arguelles y Fernandez de Castro, Cuban Navy. For outstanding conception of need of Cuban Navy training of personnel, and equipment to successfully contribute its role in hemispheric defense by operating the Inshore Patrol. For displaying imagination and zeal toward various problems of defense, and executing all requests made on the Cuban Navy by the U. S., to the best of the ability of the limited equipment possessed.

Officer -- Commander Antonio Picardi, Venezuelan Navy. For his expert knowledge of, and ability in seamanship, for your energetic efforts in the development and training of naval personnel, and for his splendid spirit of cooperation with the U. S. sea and air forces in the defense of the Caribbean.

Squadron Leader Henry Campbell Walker, Royal New Zealand Air Forces. For heroism and extraordinary achievement in aerial flight against the enemy in the Solomon Islands Area.

In accordance with your instructions, and in accordance with the practice of the War Department, the State Department has been consulted and has no objection to these awards.

I recommend approval.

If the President approves these awards, it is requested that the attached certificates be signed.

Very respectfully,

W. Brown

OK
F. D. R.
August 9, 1943.

WILSON BROWN

Certificates signed and returned to Navy
August 10, 1943.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

1. There are forwarded, herewith, for your approval recommendations of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals for the award of the Legion of Merit in degrees indicated to the following foreign officers:

   **COMMANDER**
   
   Comodoro Julio Diez Arguelles y Fernandez de Castro, Cuban Navy.

   **OFFICER**
   
   Commander Antonio Picardi, Venezuelan Navy.
   
   Squadron Leader Henry Campbell Walker, Royal New Zealand Air Forces.

2. It will be noted that the Secretary of the Navy has approved the recommendations of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals. The State Department has been consulted and has no objection to these awards.

3. If the President approves these awards, it is requested that the attached Certificates be signed.

   
   James Forrestal
   
   (signature)

   Date: 2/3/59
   
   Signature: Carl T. Spicer
CONFIDENTIAL

End—2 to VCNO conf. ltr. (SC)P15/ZF12,
Op-16-A-5, P15/QQ/ZF12,
Serial 01926516, dated 28 July 1943.

From: The Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.
Subj: Legion of Merit Award to Cuban Officer.

1. The Board recommends approval of the award of the Legion of Merit,
degree of Commander, to Commodore Julio Diez Arguelles Y Fernandez de
Castro, Cuban Navy, for performance of outstanding services to the
Government of the United States as set forth in the basic letter.

A. E. WATSON

APPROVED:

[Signature]
The Secretary of the Navy

CC: Bd of Dec & Medals

Copy

Address Reply to
The Secretary of the Navy
and refer to initials and No.
Q34-IHY

NAVY DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON

4 August 1943
CONFIDENTIAL

FIRST ENDORSEMENT to:

VONO conf. ltr. (SC)P15/EF12,
Op-16-A-5, P15/QQ/EF12,
serial 01926516, dated 28
July 1943.

From: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet, and
Chief of Naval Operations.

To: Secretary of the Navy.

Subject: Legion of Merit Award to Cuban Officer.

1. Forwarded, recommending approval.

/s/ E. J. King

E. J. KING.

Received S-C File
Room 2055
2 Aug 1943
Route To: Bd D & M

Op File No (SC) P15/EF19
Doc No.
Copy No 1 of 3
SRN

see (SC) P15/EF12

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DECLASSIFIED
OCD DIR. 5200.9 (2/27/58)

Date: 2/3/59

Signature:
Carl J. Spicer
From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.

Via: (1) The Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Fleet.
      (2) The Board of Decorations and Medals.

Subj: Legion of Merit Award to Cuban Officer.

Encl: (A) Information re Comodoro Julio Diez Arguelles y Fernandez de Castro.

1. Enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith and covers recommendation for the award of the Legion of Merit to Comodoro Julio Diez Arguelles y Fernandez de Castro. This recommendation was submitted in previous correspondence.

2. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations strongly recommends approval of this award and requests that the award be handled as expeditiously as practicable.

3. If this award is approved, it is recommended that the decoration and necessary papers be forwarded to Rear Admiral Monroe for presentation on the next appropriate occasion.

/s/ F. J. Herne

F. J. HERNE.
Name: Julio Diez Arguelles y Fernandez de Castro.
Official mail address: Castillo de la Punta, Havana, Cuba.
Rank and position: Comodoro, Chief of Cuban Navy.
Decoration: Legion of Merit - Commander.
Citation:
For outstanding conception of need of Cuban Navy training of personnel, and equipment to successfully contribute its role in hemispheric defense by operating the Inshore Patrol. For displaying imagination and zeal toward various problems of defense, and executing all requests made on the Cuban Navy by the U.S., to the best of the ability of the limited equipment possessed.
NAVY DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON

4 August 1943

From: The Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals.

To: The Secretary of the Navy.

Subj: Legion of Merit Award to Venezuelan Officer.

1. The Board recommends approval of the award of the Legion of Merit, degree of Officer, to Commander Antonio Picardi, Venezuelan Navy, for performance of outstanding services to the Government of the United States as set forth in the basic letter.

/s/
A. E. Watson

APPROVED:

[Signature]
The Secretary of the Navy

WHITE HOUSE FILE COPY

CC: Bd of Dec and Medals

DECLASSIFIED
DOD Directive 5200.9 (9/27/56)
Date: 2/3/59
Signature: Paul J. Spencer
UNITED STATES FLEET
Headquarters of the Commander in Chief
Navy Department, Washington, D.C.

Serial: 02607 -2 August 1943

CONFIDENTIAL

FIRST ENDORSEMENT TO
VCMO conf. ltr. (SC)F15/EF12,
Op-16-A-5, F15/02/EF12,
serial 01926616 dated 28
July, 1943.

From: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet, and
Chief of Naval Operations.

To: Secretary of the Navy.

Subject: Legion of Merit Award to Venezuelan Officer.

1. Forwarded, recommending approval.

/s/
E. J. KING.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
DECLASSIFIED
ODD DIA: 5200.9 (9/21/68)
Date- 4/3/59
Signature- Carl I. Spicer
NAVY DEPARTMENT
Office of the Chief of Naval Operations
Washington

(Sc) P15/EF12
Op-16-A-5
P15/QQ/EF12
Serial 01926616

28 July 1943

CONFIDENTIAL

From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.
Via: (1) The Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Fleet.
(2) The Board of Decorations and Medals.
Subj: Legion of Merit Award to Venezuelan Officer.
Encl: (A) Information re Commander Antonio Picardi.

1. Enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith and covers recommendation
   for the award of the Legion of Merit to Commander Antonio Picardi. This
   recommendation was submitted in previous correspondence.

2. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations strongly recommends approval
   of this award and requests that the award be handled as expeditiously as
   practicable.

3. If this award is approved, it is recommended that the decoration
   and necessary papers be forwarded to the Chief of the Naval Mission in
   Venezuela for presentation on the next appropriate occasion.

/s/
F. J. HORNE
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Antonio Picardi</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Official mail address:</td>
<td>Caracas, Venezuela.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rank and position:</td>
<td>Commander, Director of the Navy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decoration:</td>
<td>Legion of Merit - OFFICER.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citation:</td>
<td>For your expert knowledge of, and ability in seamanship, for your energetic efforts in the development and training of naval personnel, and for your splendid spirit of cooperation with the United States sea and air forces in the defense of the Caribbean.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
WASHINGTON

12 August 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

1. There is forwarded, herewith, for your approval a recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals for the award of the Legion of Merit in degrees indicated to the following Uruguayan Officers:

   **COMMANDER**
   Rear Admiral Gustavo A. Schroder, Uruguayan Navy.

   **OFFICER**
   Captain Juan J. Miller, Uruguayan Navy.
   Captain Juan M. Conosa, Uruguayan Navy.

2. It will be noted that the Secretary of the Navy has approved the recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals. The State Department has been consulted and has no objection to these awards.

3. If the President approves these awards, it is requested that the attached Certificates be signed.

   [Signature]

   Date: 8/25/43
   Rcd in Navy: 8/24/43

   Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
   DECLASSIFIED
   DOD Dir. 5200.9 (9/27/58)
   Date: 2/3/59
   Signature: Carl S. Spaar
MEMORANDUM FOR:

The President.

There is attached hereto for your approval a recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals for the award of the Legion of Merit in degrees indicated to the following Uruguayan officers:

**Degree of Commander**

Rear Admiral Gustavo A. Schroder, Uruguayan Navy, for his leadership of the Uruguayan Navy which has attained the highest state of efficiency in the history of the nation, and for his wholehearted assistance in cooperation which has been of inestimable value to the defense of the Americas and our cause.

**Degree of Officer**

Captain Juan J. Miller, Uruguayan Navy, for his valuable assistance and cooperation on each and every occasion of the visit of a U.S. warship to the port of Montevideo, and for absolute devotion to the interests of Uruguay, and those of the United States and its allies.

Captain Juan M. Canosa, Uruguayan Navy, for his outstanding ingenuity and brilliant direction which has brought the Uruguayan Naval Arsenal to a new high in efficiency in order that it might contribute its part to the cause of the United Nations.

In accordance with your instructions, and in accordance with the practice of the War Department, the State Department has been consulted and has no objection to these awards.

I recommend approval.

If you approve these awards, it is requested that the attached certificates be signed.

Very respectfully,

[Signature]

WILSON BROWN

X50-B
UNITED STATES FLEET
Headquarters of the Commander in Chief
Navy Department, Washington, D. C.

Serial: 02704

CONFIDENTIAL

9 August 1943

From: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet, and
Chief of Naval Operations.

To: Secretary of the Navy.

Subject: Legion of Merit Awards to Uruguayan Officers.

1. Forwarded, concurring in the recommendations
made in the basic letter.

/a/
E. J. KING

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DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 8200.9 (3/27/58)

Date: 2/3/59

Signature:
Carl T. Spies
NAVY DEPARTMENT
Washington

11 August 1943

CONFIDENTIAL

End—2 to
VCHO conf. ltr. (SC) P15/EF72
Op-16-A-5, P15/0Q/EF72, serial
02026816 dated 6 August 1943.

From: The Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals.

To: The Secretary of the Navy.

Subj: Legion of Merit Awards to Uruguayan Officers.

1. The Board recommends approval of the award of the Legion of Merit in degrees indicated to the following Uruguayan Officers:

   COMMANDER
   Rear Admiral Gustavo A. Schroder, Uruguayan Navy

   OFFICER
   Captain Juan J. Miller, Uruguayan Navy
   Captain Juan M. Conosa, Uruguayan Navy

2. The Board has been informed by the Department of State that that Department has no objection to these awards.

   /s/
   A. E. WATSON

APPROVED:

/s/ Frank A. Low
The Secretary of the Navy

CC: Bd. of Dec & Medals
CONFIDENTIAL

From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

To: The Secretary of the Navy.

Via: (1) The Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Fleet.
(2) The Board of Decorations and Medals.

Subj: Legion of Merit Awards to Uruguayan Officers.

Ref: (a) VCNO-conf. ltr. to SecNav, Serial No. 078913,
dated July 22, 1943.

Encl. (A) Information re Rear Admiral Gustavo A. Schroder.
(B) Information re Captain Juan J. Miller.
(C) Information re Captain Juan M. Canosa.

1. Enclosures (A) to (C) are forwarded herewith and cover recommendations for the award of the Legion of Merit to three Uruguayans. These recommendations were submitted in previous correspondence.

2. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations strongly recommends approval of the awards to the Uruguayan officers listed in the enclosures and requests that these awards be handled as expeditiously as practicable.

3. If these awards are approved, it is recommended that the decorations and necessary papers be forwarded to Vice Admiral Ingram for presentation on the next appropriate occasion. Attention is invited to the previous recommendations in reference (a), covering awards in Brazil, and it is recommended that these awards be sent to Vice Admiral Ingram at the same time in order that all awards may be made within a reasonable time of each other.

/s/ F. J. HORNE

Date- 1/3/54

Signature- Carl S. Spicer
URUGUAY

Name: Gustavo A. Schroder.

Official mail address: 25 de Agosto y Marciel, Montevideo, Uruguay.

Rank and Position: Contralmirante (Reer Adm ral), Inspector General of the Navy.

Decoration: Legion of Merit - COMMANDER.

Citation: For your leadership of the Uruguayan Navy which has attained the highest state of efficiency in the history of the nation, and for your wholehearted assistance in cooperation which has been of inestimable value to the defense of the Americas and our cause.
URUGUAY

Name: Juan J. Miller.

Official mail address: 25 de Agosto y Maciel, Montevideo, Uruguay.

Rank and position: Capitan de Navio (Captain), Prefect Director General of Communications.

Decoration: Legion of Merit - OFFICER.

Citation: For valuable assistance and cooperation on each and every occasion of the visit of a U.S. warship to the port of Montevideo, and for absolute devotion to the interests of Uruguay, and those of the United States and its allies.

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DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date: 2/3/59

Signature: Carl L. Spicer

ENCLOSURE (B) TO SERIAL 02026816.
URUGUAY

Name: Juan W. Cenosa.

Official mail address: 25 de Agosto y Maciel, Montevideo, Uruguay.

Rank and position: Capitan de Navio (Captain) (Commanding Officer of Uruguayan Naval Arsenal).

Decoration: Legion of Merit - OFFICER.

Citation: For outstanding ingenuity and brilliant direction which has brought the Uruguayan Naval Arsenal to a new high in efficiency in order that it might contribute its part to the cause of the United Nations.

ENCLOSURE (C) TO SERIAL 02026816.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

Your approval is requested for the appointment of Captain S. A. Clement to the temporary rank of Commodore.

He is in command of all forces and defenses on the island of Aruba which include Naval Forces, Army troops, Army Air Corps units and Dutch troops. In addition he regulates shipping, escorts and air coverage in the vicinity.

Aruba is a very busy and important oil port requiring an officer of experience and rank to properly prosecute the full war effort.

Captain Clement has greatly improved conditions in Aruba and performs his duties in a conspicuously efficient manner.

A regular nomination will be submitted to you when Congress returns from its present recess.

Frank Knox
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

It is requested that the inclosed Congressional Medal of Honor Citation for First Lieutenant James E. Swett, U. S. Marine Corps Reserve, be signed by the President.

Frank Knox

Frank Knox

Inclosure: 1.

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DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)
Date: 2/3/59
Signature: Carl S. Speer
The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR to

FIRST LIEUTENANT JAMES E. SWETT, USMCR,

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

"For extraordinary heroism and personal valor above and beyond the call of duty, as a division leader in Marine Fighting Squadron TWO TWENTY-ONE in action against enemy Japanese aerial forces in the Solomon Islands Area, April 7, 1943. In a daring flight to intercept a wave of 150 Japanese planes, First Lieutenant Swett unhesitatingly hurled his four-plane division into action against a formation of fifteen enemy bombers and during his dive personally exploded three hostile planes in mid-air with accurate and deadly fire. Although separated from his division while clearing the heavy concentration of anti-aircraft fire, he boldly attacked six enemy bombers, engaged the first four in turn, and unaided, shot them down in flames. Exhausting his ammunition as he closed the fifth Japanese bomber, he relentlessly drove his attack against terrific opposition which partially disabled his engine, shattered the windscreen and slashed his face. In spite of this, he brought his battered plane down with skillful precision in the water off Tulagi without further injury. The superb airmanship and tenacious fighting spirit which enabled First Lieutenant Swett to destroy seven enemy bombers in a single flight were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

AUG 30 1943
SECRET

P15(A)

End--8 to
CO, MAO-12, secret ltr.
KV12/F15-1/jfm, dated
17 April 1943.

From: The Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals.

To: The Secretary of the Navy.

Subj: Recommendation for award in the case of
First Lieutenant James K. Swett, U.S.M.C.R.

1. The Board recommends that First Lieutenant James K. Swett, United States Marine Corps Reserve, be awarded the Medal of Honor for extraordinary gallantry and conspicuous intrepidity in shooting down seven enemy bombers in a single flight on 7 April 1943.

A. E. WATSON

 APPROVED: 2 AUG 1943

JAMES FORRESTAL
Acting
The Secretary of the Navy

CC: Ed of Dec & Medals
/ Comit, USMC

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)
Date: 7/3/59
Signature: Carl T. Sperry
Special Meeting
23 July 1943
Memorandum for The President

Subject: CVL Aircraft Carriers, small.

1. I have approved the making of award for construction of the following combatant ships:

   2 - CVL Aircraft Carriers, small (13,000 tons)

2. Tonnage is available for this construction by utilizing replacement tonnage and the cancellation of four of our large program of DE's.

3. The ships will be delivered in the last part of 1945. No interference with the present program will result, excepting a delay of about three months on 2 CL's.

4. The design of these ships will utilise the basic hull and machinery design of the 13,000 ton CA's.

5. Tactically, it is expected to use these ships as fighter carriers to accompany the large carriers, on the ratio of one small fighter carrier to two large carriers.

6. Your approval of this action is requested.

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DOD DIR. 5205.6 (9/27/58)

Date: 2/3/59

Signature: Carl I. Shen

x18 - Mine, Naval, Bldg. Folder
x249 Official
x57-780

Frank Knox
Very respectfully,

attached certificates be endorsed if you approve these awards, it is requested that the

I recommend approved.

have been consulted and the no objection to these awards.

in accordance with your instructions, and in accordance

of the American Republic.

in the case of the democracies and the defense

of the Mexican Republic.

in the case of the democracies and the defense

for loyal cooperation and action as Secretary of the Navy,

For General Heriberto Jara, Secretary of the Navy

to the following Mexican officials

There is attached hereunto for your approval a

The President.

September 4, 1943.

P.S.
THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
WASHINGTON

2 September 1943

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

1. There is forwarded, herewith, for your approval a recommendation
   of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals for the award
   of the Legion of Merit in degrees indicated to the following Mexican
   Officers:

   COMMANDER
   
   Major General Heriberto Jara, Secretary of the Navy.
   Rear Admiral Othon P. Blanco, Under Secretary of the Navy.
   General de Division Alejandro Mange, Commander of the
   Mexican Military Region of the Gulf.
   Commodore David Coello Ochoa, Commandant of the First
   Naval Zone at Vera Cruz.

2. It will be noted that the Secretary of the Navy has approved the
   recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals.
   The State Department has been consulted and has no objection to these
   awards.

3. If the President approves these awards, it is requested that the
   attached Certificates be signed.

[Signature]

Certificates Signed 9-4-43

[Signature]

Certified true to Navy 9-4-43

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)
Date- 1/3/59

Signature-

Earl F. Spicer
CONFIDENTIAL

End - 2 to
VCNO Conf Ltr
P15/EP12 Serial
01926916 of 23 Aug 1943.

From: The Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.
Subj: Legion of Merit Awards to Mexican Officers.

1. The Board recommends approval of the award of the Legion of Merit in the degrees indicated to the following Mexican officers:

   Legion of Merit - COMMANDER

   Major General Heriberto Jara, Secretary of the Navy
   Rear Admiral Othon P. Blanco, Under Secretary of the Navy
   General de Division Alejandro Hauge, Commander of the Mexican
   Military Region of the Gulf
   Commodore David Coello Ochoa, Commandant of the First Naval Zone
   at Vera Cruz.

2. The Board has been informed by the Department of State that that Department has no objection to these awards.

A. E. WATSON

APPROVED: 2 SEP 1943

FRANK KNOX
The Secretary of the Navy

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DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 8200.9 (8/27/69)
Date: 2/3/59

Signature: Carl D. Spear
UNITED STATES FLEET  
HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF  
NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D.C.

FF1/P15(62)  
Serial: 02949

CONFIDENTIAL

27 August 1943

FIRST ENDORSEMENT to  
VCNO ltr. (SC)P15/EF12,  
Op-16-A-5, P15(OG/EF12,  
01926916 dated 23 Aug. 1943.

From: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet, and  
Chief of Naval Operations.  
To: Secretary of the Navy.  
Subject: Legion of Merit Awards to Mexican Officers.

1. Forwarded, recommending approval.  
/s/ E. J. King.  
E. J. King.

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date: 2/3/59  
Signature: Paul J. Speer
In reply refer Initials and No.

(FC)Pl5/EFl2
Op-16-A-5
P15/0C/EF12
Serial 03926916

CONFIDENTIAL

NAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON

23 August 1943

CONFIDENTIAL

From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.

Via: (1) The Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Fleet.
(2) The Board of Decorations and Medals.

Subj: Legion of Merit Awards to Mexican Officers.

Encl: (A) Information re Major General Heriberto Jara.
(B) Information re Rear Admiral Othon P. Blanco.
(C) Information re General de Division Alejandro Mange.
(D) Information re Commodore David Coello Ochoa.

1. Enclosures (A) to (D) are forwarded herewith and cover recommendations for the award of the Legion of Merit to four Mexican officers. Three of these recommendations were submitted in previous correspondence. Since then an additional recommendation has been received for General de Division Alejandro Mange.

2. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations strongly recommends approval of the awards to the Mexican officers listed in the enclosures and requests that these awards be handled as expeditiously as practicable.

3. If these awards are approved, it is recommended that the decorations and necessary papers be forwarded to Vice Admiral Johnson for presentation on the next appropriate occasion.

/s/ F. J. Horne,
F. J. Horne

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date: 2/3/59
Signature: Carl J. Spencer
Name: Heriberto Jara.

Official mail address: Secretaria de la Marina, Azueta 9, Mexico, D. F.

Rank and position: General de Division (Major General), Secretary of the National Marine.

Decoration: Legion of Merit - COMMANDER.

Citation: For loyal cooperation and action as Secretary of the National Marine in the cause of the democracies and the defense of the American Republics.

ENCLOSURE (A) TO SERIAL 01926916.

Signature: Joel L. Spencer.
**MEXICO**

**Name:**
Othon P. Blanco.

**Official mail address:**
Secretaria de la Marina, Azueta 9, Mexico, D. F.

**Rank and position:**
Contralmirante (Rear Admiral), Sub Secretary of National Marine.

**Decoration:**
Legion of Merit - COMMANDER.

**Citation:**
For loyal cooperation and activities as Sub-Secretary of the National Marine and as Commander of Mexican Naval Forces in the Pacific, in the cause of the democracies and the defense of the American Republics.
MEXICO

Alejandro Mange

Region Militar del Golfo, y 26 Zona Militar, Veracruz, Vera Cruz.

General de Division - Commandante Region Militar del Golfo, y Zona Militar.

Legion of Merit - COMMANDER.

For loyal cooperation and action as the Commandante Region Militar del Golfo in the cause of the democracies and the defense of the American Republics.
MEXICO

Name:

David Coello Ochoa.

Official mail address:

Zona Naval Militar, Veracruz, Vera Cruz.

Rank and position:

Comodoro (Commodore) – Commanding 1st Naval Zone.

Decoration:

Legion of Merit – COMMANDER.

Citation:

For loyal cooperation and activities, as Director of the Mexican Fleet and as Commander of the First Naval Zone, in the cause of the democracies and the defense of the American Republics.

In view of the fact that the information at hand is not sufficient to properly consider this for any award, it would be appreciated if you would let us know immediately whether or not you feel they should be considered along with Jones, Hackett and Coello. Perhaps it would be better to let the Army make the selection. If you feel they should be in our first batch, you should submit a formal and complete official recommendation very soon.

Present plans are to have Vice Admiral Johnson make the visit to June, Hackett and Coello when he visits Mexico around the middle of September.

Indistinct regards and best wishes,

ENCLOSURE (D) TO SERIAL 01926916.

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 9/3/59

Signature-

Carl L. Spicer
Airmail  
Special Delivery

622474  
11 August 1943

Dear Bob:

Your letter of July 14th relative to the decoration of General Mange and General Molinar has been received.

I feel that you should know that there is now under consideration several Mexican officers for the Legion of Merit Award. Three have been tentatively approved for the grade of Commander — Major General Heriberto Jara, Secretary of Navy; Rear Admiral Othon P. Blanco, Sub-Secretary of Navy; and Commodore David Coello Ochoa, Commander, First Naval Zone. Coello's name was mentioned in Riefkohl's letter to you dated the 30th of June. Mange and Molinar have not been previously considered by the Navy and as far as I know the Army has not considered them.

In view of the fact that the information at hand on Mange and Molinar is not sufficient to properly consider them for any award, it would be appreciated if you would let me know immediately whether or not you feel they should be considered along with Jara, Blanco and Coello. Perhaps it would be better to let the Army make the awards. If you feel they should be in our first batch, you should submit a formal and complete official recommendation very soon.

Present plans are to have Vice Admiral Johnson make the awards to Jara, Blanco and Coello when he visits Mexico around the middle of September.

Kindest regards and best wishes,

Very sincerely,

W. O. Spears

Date - 2/3/54

Signature -

RR. Adm. W. R. Munroe  
Comdr., Gulf Sea Frontier  
Miami, Fla.
16 August 1943.

To: Director of Naval Intelligence

Subj: Award of Legion of Merit to Mexican Naval Officers.

Ref: (a) NA Restricted ltr. #395-42-L of 22 May 1942.
     (b) NA Confidential ltr. L-161-42 of 16 November 1942.
     (c) NA Confidential ltr. L-193-43 of 18 May 1943.
     (d) OpNav Restricted despatch 182253 of May 1942.

1. Reference (a), (b), and (c) have been addressed to the Director in order to nominate in accordance with reference (d) various officers of the Mexican Navy for the U.S. Order of Merit. Since five officers of the Mexican Army have already been given this decoration without as yet bestowing it upon one Naval Officer, it is recommended that no further time be lost before rectifying this inequality. The only active connection which the Mexican armed forces have so far had, or are at all likely to have in this war with the enemy, is between their Navy and Air Force and submarines. The Mexican Navy stands already greatly in the shadow of the Army, and it is submitted that we should rather build up the prestige of those who are in a position actually to help us, than to slight it in any way.

2. The officers recommended in references (a), (b), and (c) are listed below in the order in which the Naval Attaché, after more than two years association with them, considers they are deserving of the decoration:

Comodoro David Coello Ochoa - Commander of 1st Naval Zone.
General Heriberto Jara - Secretary of the Navy.
Contralmirante Othon P. Blanco Caceres - Subsecretary of the Navy.
Comodoro Mario Rodriguez Malpica - Director General of the Fleet.
Contralmirante Luis Hurtado de Mendoza - Commander of the Naval Region of the Gulf and Caribbean.
General de Brigada Gustavo Salinas Camino - Chief of Mexican Military Air Force.
Comodoro Luis Schaufelberger Alatorre - Commander 4th Naval Zone, (Former Director General of the Fleet).
Teniente de Fragata Carlos R. Berzunza - Aide to General Jara.
Comodoro Ignacio Garcia Jurado - Naval Attaché, Washington, D. C.
Comodoro A. Angel Corzo Castillo - Official Mayor of the Navy Department.
Comodoro Roberto Gomez Maqua - Intendente General, Defensa Nacional, (Formerly Chief of Staff, Region of the Pacific).
From: J.P. Conover, Jr.,
U.S. Naval Attache and
Naval Attache for Air.

CC: Vice Admiral Alfred W. Johnson, U.S.N.
American Embassy, Mexico City.
Captain Frederick L. Rieffehl, U.S.N.

Subject: Award of Legion of Merit to Mexican Naval Officers.

Capitan de Fragata Manuel Zermeno Araico - Liaison Officer on Staff of ComWestSeaFron.
Capitan de Fragata Alejandro Leon Lopes - Military Department of Communications, (Formerly Staff of Commander, Region of the Pacific).

3. It is understood that some decorations are to be presented by Vice Admiral Alfred W. Johnson, U.S.N., during his forthcoming visit to Mexico City, September 15 to 17, 1943. It is very strongly and definitely recommended that the first six officers on the above list be decorated at this time; five of the Navy and one of the Military Air Force.

4. The Naval Attache desires to add his recommendation to that of the Military Attache and the Embassy that General de Division Alejandro Mange, Comandante Region Militar del Golfo, be awarded the U.S. Order of Merit in recognition of his cooperation with the U.S. Navy in the Gulf of Mexico, especially with regard to the placing in effect of the Small Ship Control Plan. Since this good work has been in conjunction with the U.S. Navy, it appears fitting that Vice Admiral Johnson should make the presentation to him also.

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)
Date- 2/2/57
Signature- Carl L. Spencer
Director General de la Aduana (Director General of Customs)

3.

In addition to the names previously proposed, it is de-

References (a) Proposed General Roberto Pardo, Chief of

Mexican officers for the island of the S.S. Order of Merit.

References include those officers proposed to date of


2. The Director of Mexican Intelligence,

May 12, 1943

EMP/AA

Sent No. 1-79-43
P75
PA7/2
M43-77 (Mexico)
May 18, 1943

Subject: Mexican Naval Officers Recommended for Award of U.S. Order of Merit.

(d) Legion of Merit - Commander
(e) For his loyal cooperation and support as Mexican Naval Attaché in Washington, D.C., in the cause of the democracies and the defense of the American Republics.
(f) Confidential Remarks. This office's few contacts with Commodore Jurado have been extremely pleasant and he is believed to be friendly toward the United States. It is believed however that a more accurate opinion of him has been formed and is available in Washington.

4. The question of distribution of these awards among Mexican Army and Navy officers has been raised in this Embassy. The opinion has been expressed that the distribution should be proportional to the sizes of the two organizations. The Naval Attaché does not hold with that opinion and sets forth his reasons below:

(1) It is probable that only the Mexican Air Force and Navy will have actual contact with the enemy (submarines) in this war.
(2) While Defense Nacional has operational command of the Navy, the latter is a separate ministry with cabinet rank and not in any sense a part of the Army. There are indications that the Navy is recovering its operational control.
(3) This office has for the past year been endeavoring to build up the prestige and the importance of the Navy in the eyes of the Mexican Government in order that it may take a more effective part against enemy submarines when the necessity again arises. Such a course is recommended to the Department. It is believed that the award of the order of Merit will further this course.

5. Mexico is one of the larger and more important American Republics and it is believed that decorations given its officers should be in relative proportion, both in number and in grade, to those given to officers of other such republics.

J. P. Conover, Jr.

Date: 2/3/59
Signature: Carl L. Speer
May 22, 1942.

From: U. S. Naval Attache, Mexico City, Mexico
To: Director of Naval Intelligence
Subject: Mexican Naval Officers Recommended for Award of U. S. Order of Merit
Reference (a): OpNav Restricted Despatch 182253 of May, 1942.
(b): MID 210-5 Confidential Circular ltr. No. 175 of April 28, 1942

1. In accordance with the provisions contained in reference (a), the following Mexican naval officers' names would logically be submitted:

Commodore (Comodoro) David Coello Ochoa
Commander (Capitan de Fragata) Manuel Zermeno Araico
Lieutenant (jg) (Teniente de Fragata) Carlos R. Berzunza

Commodore Coello, now commanding the First Naval Zone at Veracruz, was the guest of the Chief of Naval Operations in May, 1941. Commander Zermeno was Naval Attache in Washington at that time and is now assigned to San Francisco as Liaison Officer. Lieutenant Berzunza was, until about six months ago, Assistant Naval Attache in Washington, and is now aide to the Minister of Marine. However, it is desired to point out that Commodore Coello, although outstandingly pro-American and cooperative, is not in the good graces of the present naval administration and the award of a decoration to him, disregarding other officers who now occupy ranking positions would, it is felt sure, create ill feeling. In view of that circumstance, it is not, repeat not, recommended that Commodore Coello be decorated unless more than three decorations can be given on the first list.

2. Since the U. S. Military Attache has already recommended General Pablo Macias, the Mexican Secretary of War, for one of these decorations, and since General Jara, the Mexican Secretary of Marine, although he holds army rank and his interests are political rather than naval, has given this office, particularly recently, friendly personal and professional cooperation, and has, after all, given such orders for the cooperation of the Mexican Fleet with our own as have been given, it is considered definitely advisable that he should stand first on the list for a decoration.
3. It is suggested that the name of Rear Admiral (Contraalmirante) Othon P. Blanco, also be considered. This officer is sub-Secretary of Marine and was, until recently, Commander-in-Chief of the Pacific Fleet, and is the ranking active officer of the Mexican Navy. Because he enjoys the confidence of the present Mexican Naval Administration, because he has lately completed the above important duties in connection with organizing the naval defenses of the West Coast, and because he has always shown himself to be friendly to this office, it is felt that his name should also be included in the same list with Commodore Coello's, the latter officer, as indicated above, being now decidedly out of favor with the present Mexican Naval Administration.

4. The initial recommendations, therefore, are as follows:

(1)(a)-Heriberto Jara
   (b) Secretaria de la Marina, Avenida 9, Mexico, D. F.
   (c) General de Division (Major General)
       Secretary of the National Marine
   (d) Legion of Merit - Commander
   (e) For his loyal cooperation and action, as Secretary of the National Marine, in the cause of the democracies and the defense of the American Republics.
   (f) Confidential remarks: Although General Jara holds army rank and his interests are political rather than naval, he has given this office, particularly recently, friendly personal and professional cooperation and has given orders for the disposition of the Mexican Navy in the interests of Hemisphere defense.

(2)(a)-Manuel Zermeno Araico
   (b) 12th Naval District, San Francisco, California
   (c) Capitan de Fragata (Commander)
   (d) Legion of Merit - Officer
   (e) For his loyal cooperation and activities as Naval Attache in Washington and Liaison Officer on the Staff of Commander Western Sea Frontier, in the cause of the democracies and the defense of the American Republics.
   (f) Confidential remarks: Made trips with Commodore Coello in April, 1941, and has had subsequent duty which has given him opportunity for cooperation with our Navy.
(3)(a) Carlos R. Bersunza  
(b) Secretaria de la Marina, Azueta 9, Mexico, D. F.  
(c) Teniente de Fragata (Lieutenant, Jg.)  
(d) Legion of Merit - Legionnaire  
(e) For his loyal cooperation and activities, as Assistant Naval Attache in Washington and personal Aide to the Secretary of the National Marine, in the cause of the democracies and the defense of the American Republics.  
(f) Confidential Remarks: As a consistent friend and worker for the interests of this office and the United States.

If more than three decorations can be given on this first list, it is recommended that five be given, the two additional as follows:

(4)(a) Othon P. Blanco  
(b) Secretaria de la Marina, Azueta 9, Mexico, D. F.  
(c) Contraalmirante (Rear Admiral)  
(d) Legion of Merit - Commander  
(e) For his loyal cooperation and activities, as Sub-Secretary of the National Marine and as Commander of Mexican Naval Forces in the Pacific, in the cause of the democracies and the defense of the American Republics.  
(f) Confidential Remarks: As the ranking officer of the Navy who has held two important positions giving opportunity for cooperation with the United States and as one who has always been friendly to this office.

(5)(a) David Coello Ochoa  
(b) Zona Naval Militar, Veracruz, Vera Cruz  
(c) Comodoro (Commodore) - Commanding 1st Naval Zone  
(d) Legion of Merit - Commander  
(e) For his loyal cooperation and activities, as Director of the Mexican Fleet and as Commander of the First Naval Zone, in the cause of the democracies and the defense of the American Republics.  
(f) Confidential Remarks: Because of his wholehearted cooperation and friendship, Commodore Coello should head the list were it not for those other considerations set forth in paragraph 1 above.

5. The Attache, from lack of knowledge of the circumstances,
is making no recommendations in the case of Comodoro Gomez Maqueo, or other officers of General Lazaro Cardenas staff. These can better come from the Eleventh Naval District.

/s/ J. P. Conover, Jr.
Memorandum for The President

1. In order to make facilities, material, and manpower available for the construction of the increased landing craft program decided upon in the recent British-American conference, and in line with the recent developments in submarine warfare, I have approved the cancellation of construction of the following ships:

- 205 Destroyer Escorts (DE)
- 40 173' Patrol Craft (PC)

2. This cancellation will leave 800 destroyer escorts built and building, all to be finished by June 1945; and 359 173' patrol craft built and building, all to be finished the end of 1944.

3. None of these ships have been started and no waste of materials is involved.

4. Your approval of this action is requested.
MEMORANDUM FOR:
The President.

September 21, 1943.

There are attached hereto for your approval four recommendations of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals for the award of the Legion of Merit in degrees indicated to the following foreign officers:

Degree of Commander
Rear Admiral Federico Diaz Dulanto, Peruvian Navy, for exceptionally meritorious conduct and outstanding service in positions of great responsibility (Minister of Marine and Aviation).

Rear Admiral Roque Saldiva, Peruvian Navy, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in position of high responsibility (Escuelda Naval, La Bunta, Callao, Peru).

Captain Mariano H. Melgar, C., Peruvian Navy, for exceptionally meritorious service in coordinating the activities in the Peruvian squadrons with forces of the U.S. Navy in maintaining the defense of the Hemisphere.

Captain Juan Francisco ANDA y Maldonado, Ecuadorean Navy, for complete cooperation with the Office of the U.S. Naval Attache, with the U.S. Naval Mission, and with all representatives of the U.S. in matters concerning hemisphere defense.

Vice Admiral Julio Allard Pinto, Chilean Navy, for outstanding services and cooperation with the United States.

Rear Admiral Juan Augustin Rodriguez Sepulveda, Chilean Navy, for exceptionally meritorious service and cooperation with the United States.

Degree of Officer
Captain Carlos Cortes Jullian, Chilean Navy, for exceptionally meritorious conduct and outstanding service in a position of responsibility (Naval Attache to Washington).

Commander Cesar Alejandro MOGOLLON y Cardenas, Ecuadorean Navy, for cooperation with the U.S. Navy and all other representatives of the U.S. Government in matters concerning hemisphere defense.

Lieut-Colonel Hernando Mora A., Columbian Army, for especially meritorious services in the performance of present duties as Director General of the Columbian Navy.

In accordance with your instructions, and in accordance with the practice of the War Dept., the State Dept. has been consulted and has no objection to these awards.

I recommend approval.

Very respectfully,

W. B. Dubu

W. B. Dubu
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

1. There is forwarded, herewith, for your approval a recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals for the award of the Legion of Merit in degrees indicated to the following Peruvian Officers:

   COMMANDER

   x { Rear Admiral Federico Diaz Dulanto, Peruvian Navy.  
     Rear Admiral Roque Saldias, Peruvian Navy.  
     Captain Mariano H. Melgar C., Peruvian Navy.  
   } x287-A

2. It will be noted that the Secretary of the Navy has approved the recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals. The State Department has been consulted and has no objection to these awards.

3. If the President approves these awards, it is requested that the attached Certificates be signed.

   James Forrestal
   x18

3 Certificate signed 9-22-43
NAVY DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL

End--2 to
VCNO conf. ltr.
PL5/0Q/E12, Serial 01927016,
dated 9 September, 1943.

From: The Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals.

To: The Secretary of the Navy.

Subj: Legion of Merit Awards to Peruvian Officers.

1. The Board recommends approval of the award of the Legion of Merit
   in degrees indicated to the following Peruvian Officers.

   COMMANDER
   Rear Admiral Federico Diaz Dulanto, Peruvian Navy
   Rear Admiral Roque Saldias, Peruvian Navy
   Captain Mariano H. Melgar C., Peruvian Navy.

2. The Board has been informed by the Department of State that that
   Department has no objection to these awards.

A. E. WATSON

APPROVED:

[Signature]

The Secretary of the Navy

CC: Bd of Dec & Medals
From: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.
To: Secretary of the Navy.
Subject: Legion of Merit Awards to Peruvian Officers.

1. Forwarded.

2. The Commander in Chief, United States Fleet, concurs in the recommendations contained in basic letter.

G. L. RUSSELL,  
By direction.
NAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON

(Sc)Pl5/EF12
Op-16-A-5
Pl5/OQ/EF12
Serial 01927016

9 September 1943

CONFIDENTIAL

From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
       The Secretary of the Navy.

To:  The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

Via: (1) The Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Fleet.
       (2) The Board of Decorations and Medals.

Subj: Legion of Merit Awards to Peruvian Officers.

Ref: (a) Conf. VCN0 ltr., serial 0571516, dated Apr. 16, 1943.

Encl: (A) Information re Rear Admiral Federico Diaz Dulanto.
       (B) Information re Rear Admiral Roque Saldias.
       (C) Information re Captain Mariano H. Melgar C.

1. Enclosures (A) to (C) are forwarded herewith and cover recommenda-
   tions for the award of the Legion of Merit to three Peruvian officers.
   These recommendations were submitted in reference (a).

2. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations strongly recommends approval
   of the awards to the Peruvian officers listed in the enclosures and re-
   quests that these awards be handled as expeditiously as practicable.

3. If these awards are approved, it is recommended that the deco-
   rations and necessary papers be forwarded to Rear Admiral Whiting for
   presentation on the next appropriate occasion.

F. J. HORNE

Date- 2/3/59
Signature- Carl L. Spicer
CONFIDENTIAL

NAME: Mariano H. Melgar C.

OFFICIAL MAIL ADDRESS: Lima, Peru.

RANK AND POSITION: Capitan de Navie (Captain), Commander-in-Chief, Peruvian Fleet.

DECORATION: Legion of Merit - COMMANDER.

CITATION: For exceptionally meritorious service in coordinating the activities in the Peruvian squadrons with forces of the United States Navy in maintaining the defense of the Hemisphere. His untiring efforts have proven of unestimable value in strengthening the understanding and friendship between Peru and the United States of America.

ENCLOSURE (C) TO SERIAL 01927016

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DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/3/59
Signature- Carl L. Spicer
CONFIDENTIAL

Name: Roque Saldias.

Official mail address: Callao, Peru.

Rank and position: Rear Admiral, Escuela Naval, La Bunta, Callao, Peru.

Decoration: Legion of Merit - COMMANDER.

Citation: For exceptionally meritorious conduct in position of high responsibility through his unstinted and untiring efforts, increasing understanding and stronger bonds of friendship have been made possible.

ENCLOSURE (B) TO SERIAL 01927016.
Name:  
Federico Diaz Dulante.  

Official Mail address:  
Minister of Marine and Aviation, Peru.  

Rank and position:  
Rear Admiral and Minister of Marine and Aviation. (Contralmirante)  

Decoration:  
Legion of Merit - COMMANDER.  

Citation:  
For exceptionally meritorious conduct and outstanding service in positions of great responsibility. As Minister of Marine and Aviation, Admiral Federico Diaz Dulante made outstanding contributions towards increasing the bonds of friendship that link his country and the United States of America.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

1. There is forwarded, herewith, for your approval a recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals for the award of the Legion of Merit in degrees indicated to the following Chilean Officers:

   COMMANDER

   Vice Admiral Julio Allard Pinto, Chilean Navy.
   Rear Admiral Juan Augustin Rodriguez Sepulveda, Chilean Navy.

   OFFICER

   Captain Carlos Cortes Jullian, Chilean Navy.

2. It will be noted that the Secretary of the Navy has approved the recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals. The State Department has been consulted and has no objection to these awards.

3. If the President approves these awards, it is requested that the attached Certificates be signed.

   James Forrestal

3 certificates signed 9-22-43
From: The Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals.

To: The Secretary of the Navy.

Subj: Legion of Merit Awards to Chilean Officers.

1. The Board recommends approval of the award of the Legion of Merit in degrees indicated to the following Chilean Officers:

   COMMANDER
   Vice Admiral Julio Allard Pinto, Chilean Navy
   Rear Admiral Juan Augustin Rodriguez Sepulveda, Chilean Navy

   OFFICER
   Captain Carlos Cortes Julian, Chilean Navy.

2. The Board has been informed by the Department of State that that Department has no objection to these awards.

A. E. WATSON

APPROVED:

The Secretary of the Navy

CC: Bd of Dec & Medals
FIRST ENDORSEMENT to
Vice CNO conf. ltr.
PL5/OQ/EFL2, Serial 02027016,
dated 9 September, 1943.

From: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.
To: Secretary of the Navy.
Subject: Legion of Merit Awards to Chilean Officers.

1. Forwarded.

2. The Commander in Chief, United States Fleet, concurs
   in the recommendations contained in basic letter.

G. L. RUSSELL,
By direction.
NAVY DEPARTMENT
Office of the Chief of Naval Operations
WASHINGTON

(SE)F15/EF12
Op-16-A-5
F15/0Q/EF12
Serial 02027016

CONFIDENTIAL

From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.
Via: (1) The Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Fleet.
     (2) The Board of Decorations and Medals.
Subj: Legion of Merit Awards to Chilean Officers.
Ref: (a) Conf. VCNO ltr., serial 0571516, dated Apr. 16, 1943.
Encl: (A) Information re Vice Admiral Julio Allard Pinto.
      (B) Information re Rear Admiral Juan Augustin Rodriguez Sepulveda.
      (C) Information re Captain Carlos Cortes Julian.

1. Enclosures (A), (B), and (C) are forwarded herewith and cover recommendations for the award of the Legion of Merit to three Chilean officers. Two of these recommendations were submitted in reference (a). Since then an additional recommendation has been received for Rear Admiral Rodriguez.

2. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations strongly recommends approval of the awards to the Chilean officers listed in the enclosures and requests that these awards be handled as expeditiously as practicable.

3. If these awards are approved, it is recommended that the decorations and necessary papers be forwarded to Rear Admiral Whiting for presentation on the next appropriate occasion.

F. J. HORN

RECLASSIFIED
DEODIR. 5200.9 (9/27/59)

Date- 2/3/59
Signature- Carl S. Steger
CHILE

Name: Julio Allard Pinto.
Official mail address: Santiago, Chile.
Rank and position: Vice Admiral and Commander-in-Chief Chilean Navy.
Decoration: Legion of Merit - COMMANDER.
Citation: For outstanding services and cooperation with the United States.

ENCLOSURE (A) TO SERIAL 02027016.

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DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)
Date- 2/3/59
Signature- Carl S. Spaar
Name: Juan Augustin Rodriguez Sepulveda.

Official mail address: Santiago, Chile.

Rank and position: Rear Admiral and Commander-in-Chief Chilean Fleet.

Decoration: Legion of Merit - COMANDER.

Citation: For exceptionally meritorious service and cooperation with the United States of America.

ENCLOSURE (B) TO SERIAL 02027016.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Carlos Cortez Jullian</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Official mail address</td>
<td>Santiago, Chile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rank and position</td>
<td>Captain, Senior Naval Member General Staff, (former Naval Attache in Washington)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decoration</td>
<td>Legion of Merit - OFFICER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citation</td>
<td>For exceptionally meritorious conduct and outstanding service in a position of responsibility. As Naval Attache to Washington, Captain Jullian proved to be a faithful untiring worker for increased understanding between the Democracies of the Western Hemisphere, thereby making an outstanding contribution to strengthen the ties of friendship between his country and the United States of America.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ENCLOSURE (C) TO SERIAL 02027016.**

**DECLASSIFIED**

**DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)**

**Date** - 2/3/59

**Signature** - Carl S. Speer
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

1. There is forwarded, herewith, for your approval a recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals for the award of the Legion of Merit in the degree indicated to the following Colombian Officer:

   OFFICER
   Lieutenant Colonel Hernando Mora A., Colombian Army.

2. It will be noted that the Secretary of the Navy has approved the recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals. The State Department has been consulted and has no objection to this award.

3. If the President approves this award, it is requested that the attached Certificate be signed.

   [Signature]

Certificate signed 9-22-43

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DOD Dir. 5200.9 (9/27/56)

Date- 2/3/59
Signature- Carl I. Spieser
CONFIDENTIAL

End--2 to
VCNO conf. ltr.(SC)P15/EFL2,
Op-16-A-5, P15/OQ/EFL2, serial
01926416 of 9 September 1943.

From: The Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.
Subj: Legion of Merit Award to Colombian Officer.

1. The Board recommends approval of the award of the Legion of Merit, degree of Officer, to Lieutenant Colonel Hernando Mora A., Colombian Army, for his service as set forth in the basic correspondence.

A. E. WATSON

APPROVED:

[Signature]
The Secretary of the Navy

CC: Bd of Dec & Medals.
COMINCH FILE

Serial: 03449

CONFIDENTIAL

FIRST ENDORSEMENT to
VCMO conf. ltr. (SC)P15/EF12,
Op-16-A-5, P15/O4/EF12, serial
01926416 of 9 September 1943.

From: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.
To: Secretary of the Navy.
Subject: Legion of Merit Award to Colombian Officer.

1. Forwarded, recommending approval.

W. R. FURNELL,
Deputy Chief of Staff.
CONFIDENTIAL

From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.
Via: (1) The Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Fleet.
      (2) The Board of Decorations and Medals.
Subj: Legion of Merit Award to Colombian Officer.
Ref: (a) Conf. VCNO ltr., Serial 0571516, dated Apr. 16, 1943.
Encl: (A) Information re Lieutenant Colonel Hernando Mora A.

1. Enlosure (A) is forwarded herewith and covers recommend-
   mendment for the award of the Legion of Merit to Lieutenant Colonel
   Hernando Mora A. This recommendation was submitted previously to the
   Board of Decorations and Medals in reference (a).

2. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations strongly recommends approval of the award and requests that this award be handled as expeditiously as practicable.

3. If this award is approved, it is recommended that the decora-
   tion and necessary papers be forwarded to the Chief of the Naval Mission
   in Columbia for presentation on the next appropriate occasion.
CONFIDENTIAL

Name: Hernando Mora A.
Official mail address: Ministry of War, Bogota, Colombia.
Rank and position: Lieutenant Colonel and Director General of the Colombian Navy.
Decoration: Legion of Merit - Officer.
Citation: For especially meritorious services in the performance of present duties as Director General of the Colombian Navy and for a most exemplary spirit of cooperation with the other American Republics and especially with the United States.

ENCLOSURE (A) TO SERIAL 01926416.
THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

1. There is forwarded, herewith, for your approval a recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals for the award of the Legion of Merit in degrees indicated to the following Ecuadoran Officers:

   COMMANDER
   Captain Juan Francisco ANDA y Maldonado, Ecuadoran Navy.
   
   OFFICER
   Commander Cesar Alejandro MOCOLLON y Cardenas, Ecuadoran Navy.

2. It will be noted that the Secretary of the Navy has approved the recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals. The State Department has been consulted and has no objection to these awards.

3. If the President approves these awards, it is requested that the attached Certificates be signed.

   James Forrestal

2 Certificates signed 9-22-43

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DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)
Date- 2/3/59
Signature- Carl F. Spaick
CONFIDENTIAL

16 September 1943

From: The Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals.

To: The Secretary of the Navy.

Subj: Legion of Merit Awards to Ecuadoran Officers.

1. The Board recommends approval of the award of the Legion of Merit in degrees indicated to the following Ecuadoran Officers:

   COMMANDER
   Captain Juan Francisco ANDA y Maldonado, Ecuadoran Navy

   OFFICER
   Commander Cesar Alejandro MOGOLLON y Cardenas, Ecuadoran Navy.

2. The Board has been informed by the Department of State that that Department has no objection to these awards.

A. E. WATSON

APPROVED:

[Signature]

The Secretary of the Navy

CC: Bd of Dec & Medals
CONFIDENTIAL

FIRST ENDORSEMENT to
Vice CNO conf. ltr.
F15/OQ/EF12, Serial 01927216,
dated 9 September, 1943.

From: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.
To: Secretary of the Navy.

Subject: Legion of Merit Awards to Ecuadoran Officers.

1. Forwarded.

2. The Commander in Chief, United States Fleet, concurs in the recommendations contained in basic letter.

G. L. RUSSELL,
By direction.
From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.

Via: (1) The Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Fleet.
     (2) The Board of Decorations and Medals.

Subj: Legion of Merit Awards to Ecuadoran Officers.

Ref: (a) Conf. VCNO ltr., Serial 0571516, dated Apr. 16, 1943.

Encl: (A) Information re Captain Juan Francisco ANDA y Maldonado.
     (B) Information re Commander Cesar Alejandro MOGOLLON y Cardenas.

1. Enclosures (A) and (B) are forwarded herewith and cover recommendations for the award of the Legion of Merit to two Ecuadoran officers. These recommendations were submitted previously to the Board of Decorations and Medals in reference (a).

2. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations strongly recommends approval of the awards to the Ecuadoran officers listed in the enclosures and requests that these awards be handled as expeditiously as practicable.

3. If these awards are approved, it is recommended that the decorations and necessary papers be forwarded to the Chief of the Naval Mission in Ecuador for presentation on the next appropriate occasion.

F. J. HORNE
**ECUADOR**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Juan Francisco ANDA y Maldonado.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Official mail address:</td>
<td>Ministerio de Defensa Nacional, Quito, Ecuador.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rank and position:</td>
<td>Comandante General de la Marina, Capitan de Navio (Captain).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decoration:</td>
<td>Legion of Merit - COMMANDER.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citation:</td>
<td>For complete cooperation with the Office of the United States Naval Attaché, with the United States Naval Mission, and with all representatives of the United States in matters concerning hemisphere defense.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Name: Cesar Alejandro NOGOLLON y Cardenas.

Official mail address: Commandancia de Marina, Guayaquil.

Rank and position: Capitan de Fragata (Commander), Comandante de la Marina.

Decoration: Legion of Merit - OFFICER.

Citation: For cooperation with the United States Navy and all other representatives of the United States Government in matters concerning hemisphere defense.
For Mr. Anglimo
Confidential Files
Memorandum for The President

1. Due to changing war conditions, the Commander in Chief, United States Fleet and Chief of Naval Operations has recommended and I have approved that the total of the Destroyer Escorts be reduced to 600 vessels.

2. This involves a further reduction of 200 ships in addition to the 205 Destroyer Escorts recently cancelled with your approval.

3. It is proposed so to arrange contract cancellations as not to arrest the momentum already created, and not to lessen the sense of urgency among shop workers and management. Some of the material on part of this reduction has been fabricated but a large amount can be allocated to other purposes.

4. Your approval of this action is requested.

JAMES FORRESTAL
Acting

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DOD DIR. 8200.9 (9/27/69)

Date- 2/3/59

Signature: Carl T. Spencer

Approved: Sep 23 Roosevelt
Original returned 7/25/43

x18-Misc. Naval Bldg. Flders
x526
MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT:

1. Originally six destroyers were to be equipped to launch and recover aircraft. Putting on this equipment results in the loss of:

   1. 5-inch 38 calibre gun.
   2. Quintuple torpedo tube.
   3. 2 40 MM twin mounts.
   4. 3 20 MM guns.

2. The launching and recovery gear for these destroyers, after the first test, had to be redesigned. For that reason the first three destroyers of the class were sent to the Pacific without the gear but with their original armament. Of the next three, the STEVENS and HALFORD have the gear on board and have operated in the Pacific with it, and the LEUTZE, the last ship, is scheduled to be delivered in March, 1944.

3. The STEVENS and HALFORD have been given operational tests and training in the Pacific under Commander Aircraft Pacific, who has recommended that launching and recovery gear be removed from these destroyers and their offensive armament reinstalled. The Commander in Chief of the Pacific Fleet has approved this recommendation.

4. The unsatisfactory performance of these aircraft carrying destroyers arises from these facts:

   (a) A plane can be catapulted only to starboard and recovered by cast method only to port. This definitely restricts the operation of the destroyer.

   (b) A destroyer does not have sufficient bulk to make a slick of long enough duration to permit a satisfactory cast recovery.

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DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

Carl T. Speer
Subject: Aircraft on Destroyers - Removal of.

(c) Because a destroyer rolls heavily in a seaway it is necessary for it to head into the sea and this in most instances requires the plane to approach the ship across wind.

(d) The value of the plane is not commensurate with the armament lost.

5. In view of the above and to increase the offensive power of the destroyers in the Pacific Theater I recommend that aircraft and launching and recovery gear be removed from the STEVENS and HALFORD and not be installed on the LEUTZE and that in lieu thereof the guns and torpedo tubes be installed and that the other three ships of this class continue to carry their present armament.

E. J. KING.

September 27, 1943.

O.K. F.D.R. Date- 2/3/59

Signature- Carl L. Speer

X/249 official

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/59)

SECRET
September 30, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR:

The President.

Admiral Waesche has pointed out to me that the Coast Guard have a smaller percentage of officers to enlisted men than either the Navy or the Marine Corps and that this is proving unsatisfactory now because of the very large number of small units required to act in a semi-independent manner. He, therefore, wishes to increase the number of commissioned officers with a corresponding reduction of warrant officers, so that there will be no additional cost to the Government and no increase in the total number of commissioned and warrant officers. His recommendation is approved by everyone in the Navy Department.

Very respectfully,

W. T. Brown

WILSON BROWN
x50-13

x21-79
CONFIDENTIAL

My dear Mr. President:

In March, 1943, you approved a strength of 9,874 commissioned officers for the Coast Guard, which number was based on six per cent of the authorized enlisted strength of 164,500 men.

The Coast Guard appropriation for the current fiscal year provides funds for 3,291 warrant officers, which number was based on two per cent of the authorized enlisted strength indicated above. This makes a total of 13,165 officers, commissioned and warrant. A survey of the needs of the Coast Guard for the current fiscal year now indicates that proper administration will require a redistribution of this total to provide for 11,374 commissioned officers and 1,791 warrant officers. This change will not affect the manpower situation because the total number of personnel involved remains the same.

It is therefore requested that the officer strength of the Coast Guard be fixed at 11,374 commissioned officers and 1,791 warrant officers, or a total of 13,165 officers, the number for which funds were appropriated for the current fiscal year. This redistribution of ranks will not necessitate additional funds.

The foregoing meets with the approval of the Chief of Naval Personnel, the Vice Chief of Naval Operations, and the Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet, and Chief of Naval Operations.

Very respectfully,

James Forrestal

The President,
The White House.

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/59)
Date- 2/10/59
Signature- Paul V. McNair
Memorandum for The President

Subject: Cancellation of PCGs (136') and PGEs (180').

In order to further bring the Navy building program in line with the developed war needs, and to conserve manpower and material, the Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet has recommended, and I approve the cancellation of the following construction:

36 - 136' Patrol Craft (PC)
40 - 180' Patrol Craft Escort (PGE)

The 36 - 136' PCs, just now being started, will be completed as YEs which have been authorized, but not yet contracted for. No waste of material is involved.

The 40 - 180' PGEs will be cancelled without loss of material and largely on the West Coast where manpower is critical.

Your approval of this action is requested.

JAMES FORRESTAL
Acting

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date: 2/10/57
Signature: Carl D. Spear

x18-Miss Naval File Folder
Memorandum for the President from the Acting Secretary of the Navy, dated 10-2-43, subject: Cancellation of PCs (136') and PCEs (130')
MEMORANDUM FOR: The President.

There is forwarded herewith for your approval a recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals for the award of the Legion of Merit in the degree of Officer to Air Commodore Sidney Wallingford, A.D.C., Royal New Zealand Air Force in recognition of his outstanding service to the Government of the United States (organizing and activating R.N.Z. Air Force group, and for invaluable assistance to the Comdr. Aircraft, Sopac Force, while serving on his staff as R.N.Z.A.F. Staff Officer. His participation in his unit's operations in the combat zone has been important in making his organization into an efficient fighting force.)

In accordance with your instructions, and in accordance with the practice of the War Department, the State Department has been consulted and has no objection to this award.

I recommend approval.

Very respectfully,

[Signature]

WILSON BROWN
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

1. There is forwarded, herewith, for your approval a recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals for the award of the Legion of Merit in the degree of Officer to Air Commodore Sidney Wallingford, A.U.C., Royal New Zealand Air Force, in recognition of his outstanding service to the Government of the United States.

2. It will be noted that the Secretary of the Navy has approved the recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals. The State Department has been consulted and has no objection to this award.

3. If the President approves this award, it is requested that the attached Certificate be signed.

James Forrestal

Certificate signed 10-5-43
Ref to Navy 10-6-43

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DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)
Date- 2/10/59
Signature- Carl L. Skoog
FOURTH Endorsement
to ComAirSoPac secret ltr
PI5/npr over serial 00636
of 31 July'1943.

From: Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals.

To: The Secretary of the Navy.

Via: (1)
(2)

Subject: Air Commodore Sidney Wallingford, A.D.C., Royal New Zealand Air Force - Recommendation for award of the Legion of Merit.

Reference:

1. Considered at the meeting of the Board of Decorations and Medals held 13 September 1943.

2. Recommendation: The Board recommends that Air Commodore Sidney Wallingford, A.D.C., Royal New Zealand Air Force, be awarded the Legion of Merit, degree of officer, in recognition of his outstanding service to the Government of the United States in organizing and activating the Number 1 Island Group, Royal New Zealand Air Force, and for invaluable assistance to the Commander Aircraft, South Pacific Force while serving on his staff as Royal New Zealand Air Force Staff Officer since November 1942.

/s/ A.E. WATSON

APPROVED 23 SEP 1943

JAMES FORRESTAL
Acting Secretary of the Navy

CC: Dec & Medals.
THIRD ENDORSEMENT to
ComAirSoPac secret ltr.
P15/nap over serial 00636
dated 31 July 1943.

From: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet and
Chief of Naval Operations.
To: Secretary of the Navy.
Subject: Air Commodore Sidney Wallingford, A.D.C., Royal
New Zealand Air Force - Recommendation for award
of Legion of Merit.

1. Forwarded, recommending that Air Commodore Sidney
Wallingford, A.D.C., Royal Zealand Air Force, be awarded the
Legion of Merit, Third Degree.

/s/ E. J. KING

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/59)
Date- 2/10/59
Signature: Carl I. Spicer
2nd Endorsement on
ComAirSoPac SECRET
Ltr. P15/nap over
Serial 00636 dated
31 July 1943.

From: The Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.
Via: The Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet.

Subject: Air Commodore Sidney Wallingford, A.D.C., Royal New Zealand Air Force - Recommendation for award of Legion of Merit.

1. Forwarded, concurring with the recommendation of the Commander South Pacific Force that Air Commodore Sidney Wallingford, A.D.C., Royal New Zealand Air Force, be awarded the Legion of Merit, Third Degree.

/s/ C. W. Nimitz

Copy to: ComSoPac
ComAirSoPac

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)
Date: 2/10/59
Signature: Carl I. Spencer
From: The Commander South Pacific Area and South Pacific Force.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.
Via: The Commander in Chief, U.S. PACIFIC FLEET.
Subject: Air Commodore Sidney Wallingford, A.D.C., Royal New Zealand Air Force - Recommendation for award of Legion of Merit.

1. Forwarded, recommending the award of the Legion of Merit, Third Degree.

/s/ J. F. SHAFROTH
Deputy Commander
South Pacific

Roosevelt Library
J. CLAASIFIED
DOD DIR. 520.9 (9/27/58)
Date- 2/10/59
Signature- Carl L. Speck
From: Commander Aircraft, South Pacific Force.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.
Via: Commander South Pacific Force and South Pacific Area.

Subject: Air Commodore Sidney Wallingford, A.D.C., Royal New Zealand Air Force - Recommendation for award of Legion of Merit.

1. During the period from November 1942, through the current date, Air Commodore Sidney Wallingford, A.D.C., R.N.Z.A.F., served on my staff as R.N.Z.A.F. Staff Officer. On March 10, 1943, he was appointed Group Commander, No. 1 Island Group, comprising air units in Guadalcanal, Espiritu Santo, Fiji and Tonga Islands. On April 1, 1943, he was promoted to acting Air Commodore. His work in organizing his own Group and in Coordinating the operations of the R.N.Z.A.F., with the U.S. Army, Navy and Marine Groups has been an outstanding example of liaison work at its best. His administrative work has been punctuated by strikes and patrol in the combat zone. His efforts have been important in bringing the R.N.Z. A.F., to its present high efficiency as a fighting unit.

2. In order that Air Commodore Wallingford's work may receive timely recognition, it is recommended that he be awarded the Legion of Merit with the following citation:

"For distinguished and exceptionally meritorious service in organizing and activating the Number 1 Island Group, Royal New Zealand Air Force, and for invaluable assistance to the Commander Aircraft, South Pacific Force, while serving on his staff as Royal New Zealand Air Force Staff Officer, from November 1942 through the current date. Air Commodore Sidney Wallingford, A.D.C., R.N.Z.A.F., has, by his ready cooperation, unflagging effort, and inspiring leadership, made possible a smoothly functioning liaison in the South Pacific Area that is a source of pride to his subordinates and associates alike; that has resulted in effective, coordinated offensive efforts against the enemy. His participation in his unit's operations in the combat zone has been important in making his organization into an efficient fighting force."

/a/ AUBREY W. FITCH
MEMORANDUM FOR:

The President.

There is forwarded herewith for your approval a recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals for the award of the Legion of Merit (Degree of Commander) to Rear Admiral Carlos Rotalde of the Peruvian Navy.

Rear Admiral Rotalde has occupied all the high command posts of the Peruvian Navy including Commander in Chief of the Peruvian Squadron, Chief of Staff of the Peruvian Navy (on two occasions) and Minister of Marine. Admiral Rotalde is greatly responsible for the success of the U.S. Naval Mission to Peru. He has always been 100% pro-American and has at all times maintained the closest relations with the U.S. Navy. At the present time he is of great assistance to the Chief of Naval Mission to Peru, Rear Admiral McNeill.

In accordance with your instructions, and in accordance with the practice of the War Dept., the State Department has been consulted and has no objection to this award.

I recommend approval.

Very respectfully,

[Signature]

[Date]
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

1. There is forwarded, herewith, for your approval a recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals for the award of the Legion of Merit in degree indicated to the following Peruvian Officer:

   [signature]

   degree of COMMANDER

   Rear Admiral Carlos Rotalde, Peruvian Navy.

2. It will be noted that the Secretary of the Navy has approved the recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals. The State Department has been consulted and has no objection to this award.

3. If the President approves this award, it is requested that the attached Certificate be signed.

   [signature]

   [Certificate signed] 10-5-43
   [Return to Navy] 10-6-43
CONFIDENTIAL

FIRST ENDORSEMENT to
VCNO Ltr. (SC) P15/EF12
Op-16-A-5, P15/OQ/EF12
serial 02029716, dated 10/1/43.

From: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.
To: Secretary of the Navy.
Via: Board of Decorations and Medals.
Subject: Legion of Merit Award for Rear Admiral Carlos Rotalde,
Peruvian Navy.

1. Admiral King directs me to say that he is in entire
accord with the comments of the Vice Chief of Naval Operations
and recommends award of the Legion of Merit in the Grade of
Commander be made to Rear Admiral Rotalde.

R. S. EDWARDS,
Chief of Staff.

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DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/69)

Date- 2/10/69
Signature: Carl S. Snyder
From: Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
To: Secretary of the Navy.
Via: (1) Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Fleet.
      (2) Board of Decorations and Medals.
Subj: Legion of Merit Award for Rear Admiral Carlos Rotalde, Peruvian Navy.
Ref: (a) VNCO conf. ltr., serial 0571516, dated Apr. 16, 1943, to Chief of Naval Personnel.
Encl: (a) Memo from Rear Admiral W. O. Spears, U. S. Navy.

1. Admiral Rotalde has previously been recommended for a Legion of Merit Award in reference (a) but was not included with the list at the time that the three awards mentioned in Admiral Spears' memorandum were made in order that the list might not be too large at the first presentation made to Peruvian authorities.

2. The Vice Chief of Naval Operations strongly recommends Rear Admiral Carlos Rotalde, Peruvian Navy, for award of the Legion of Merit in the Grade of Commander and in view of the special circumstances noted in Admiral Spears' memorandum, considers that it is very desirable that this award be made at the same time as the other awards to Peruvians.

3. It is therefore recommended that this award be handled as expeditiously as possible.

F. J. Horne
MEMORANDUM FOR VICE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS.

Subject: Recommendation for a Legion of Merit Medal for Rear Admiral Rotalde, Peruvian Navy.

1. Admiral Rotalde received his basic training in the U. S. Navy. He is well known to many Flag Officers and all consider him as having outstanding military characteristics.

2. Admiral Rotalde has occupied all the high command posts of the Peruvian Navy including Commander in Chief of the Peruvian Squadron, Chief of Staff of the Peruvian Navy (on two occasions) and Minister of Marine.

3. Admiral Rotalde is greatly responsible for the success of the U. S. Naval Mission to Peru. He has always been 100% pro American and has at all times maintained the closest relations with the U. S. Navy.

4. Admiral Rotalde, as Chief of Staff of the Peruvian Navy, was one of the guests of the Navy Department in 1941, for a tour of the United States. He was instrumental in interpreting the U. S. Navy to the other Chiefs of Staffs.

5. Admiral Rotalde at the present time is of great assistance to the Chief of Naval Mission to Peru, Rear Admiral McNair.

6. Admiral Rotalde has repeatedly been recommended for a Legion of Merit Medal by the Naval Mission and the Naval Attache. Failure to present a medal to him at the same time as the three officers now designated to receive medals, will be very embarrassing to the Chief of Naval Mission and the Naval Attache.

7. It is recommended that a Legion of Merit Medal be authorized for Admiral Rotalde and that I be authorized to make the award at the same time that the other three Peruvian Officers on the list are decorated. The billets of the other three officers are Minister of Marine, Commander in Chief of the Squadron and the Director of the Peruvian Naval Academy. All of them have shown a high degree of cooperation with our Naval Forces in the South East Pacific. Admiral Rotalde has shown an equal degree of cooperation and it will be unfortunate if his services are not recognized at the same time.

/s/ W. O. Spears
CONFIDENTIAL

1 October 1943

FIRST ENDORSEMENT to
VCNO Itr. (SC) P15/EP12
serial 02029716, dated 10/1/43.

From: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.
To: Secretary of the Navy.
Via: Board of Decorations and Medals.

Subject: Legion of Merit Award for Rear Admiral Carlos Rotalde, Peruvian Navy.

1. Admiral King directs me to say that he is in entire accord with the comments of the Vice Chief of Naval Operations and recommends award of the Legion of Merit in the Grade of Commander be made to Rear Admiral Rotalde.

R. S. EDWARDS,
Chief of Staff.

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DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/59)
Date- 2/10/59
Signature- Carl I. Spicer
UNIVERSAL STATES FLEET
HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF
NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D.C.

CONFDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR REAR ADMIRAL WILSON BROWN, USN,
NAVAL AIDE TO THE PRESIDENT.

Referring to your memorandum of 6 October 1943 to the
Commander in Chief, United States Fleet, the following is
a suggested release to be made by the President at his
discretion:

"Our submarines, manned by gallant young officers
and men, continue to press the war deep into the
enemy's home waters. Although exact figures are
not available, it appears that the ship building
industry of Japan will be taxed beyond its capacity
to meet their losses. The average monthly sinkings
during the past six months is approximately 130,000
tons."

[Signature]

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DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)
Date- 2/10/59
Signature- Carl S. Spaatz
MEMORANDUM FOR:

The Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.

At his press conference next Tuesday (12 October), the President would like to make an announcement about the fine work being accomplished by our submarines if Admiral King thinks it will not do injury to the usefulness of the submarine branch. If you think such an announcement will be a good thing for the morale of the submarine service, will you please let me have a very brief statement by 11 October that I may deliver to the President.

Wilson Brown,
Rear Admiral, U.S.N.,
Naval Aide to the President.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

Subject: Report of Enlisted Personnel, United States Navy.

1. The estimated number of enlisted men in active service on September 30, 1943, is as indicated below. For basis of comparison, the estimated number in active service on August 31, 1943, is also included:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>30 Sept. 1943</th>
<th>31 Aug. 1943</th>
<th>Net Gain for Month</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regular Navy</td>
<td>360,869</td>
<td>355,055</td>
<td>5,814</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retired Active</td>
<td>7,550</td>
<td>7,500</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fleet Reserve</td>
<td>6,630</td>
<td>6,730</td>
<td>(-) 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women's Reserve</td>
<td>30,126</td>
<td>27,018</td>
<td>3,108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Reserve</td>
<td>1,385,879</td>
<td>1,303,827</td>
<td>82,052</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>1,791,054</td>
<td>1,700,130</td>
<td>90,924</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. To date 550,904 men have been inducted into the Navy through Selective Service.

Very respectfully,

James Forrestal

The President
The White House
MEMORANDUM FOR:  

The President.

There is forwarded herewith for your consideration a recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals for the award of the Legion of Merit (degree of Officer) to Capitão Nelson Simas De Souza, Brazilian Navy.

This award is recommended in view of Captain De Souza's outstanding performance of duty as Officer in Charge of Brazilian personnel in the coordinated fire fighting operations on May 2, 1943 when a raging and uncontrollable fire on the S.S. LIVINGSTON ROE and in Warehouse #2 in the harbor of Recife, Brazil, endangered the safety of shipping and dock facilities in the harbor. He was largely responsible by his display of initiative, judgment and decisive action in minimizing material damage to the dock facilities and saving the ship from total destruction.

In accordance with your instructions, and in accordance with the practice of the War Department, the State Department has been consulted and has no objection to this award.

I recommend approval.

Very respectfully,

WILSON BROWN.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

1. There is forwarded, herewith, for your approval a recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals for the award of the Legion of Merit in degree indicated to the following Brazilian Officer:

   Degree of Officer
   Capitão Nelson Simas De Souza, Brazilian Navy.

2. It will be noted that the Secretary of the Navy has approved the recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals. The State Department has been consulted and has no objection to this award.

3. If the President approves this award, it is requested that the attached Certificate be signed.

   /s/ Frank Knox

   Frank Knox

Certificate signed 10-13-42

Sent to Navy 10-13-42

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DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date: 2/11/59
Signature: Carl T. Sauer
CONFIDENTIAL

From: The Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.
Subj: Legion of Merit Award for Capitao Nelson Simas De Souza, Brazilian Navy.

1. The Board recommends approval of the award of the Legion of Merit, degree of Officer, to Capitao Nelson Simas De Souza, Brazilian Navy, for his service as set forth in the basic correspondence.

2. The Board has been informed by the Department of State that that Department has no objection to this award.

A. E. WATSON

APPROVED:

9 OCT 1943

Frank Knox

The Secretary of the Navy

CC: Bd of Dec & Medals
CONFIDENTIAL

SECOND ENDORSEMENT to
ComFourthFlt Conf. ltr.
P15/0988 dated 20 September
1943

From: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet and
Chief of Naval Operations.

To: Secretary of the Navy.

Subject: Recommendation for award for meritorious service-
Capitao Nelson Simas de Souza, B.N., Captain of
the Port, Recife, Brazil.

1. I concur in the recommendation of the Commanders,
Fourth Fleet for the award of the Legion of Merit Medal, degree of
Officer, to Capitao Nelson Simas de Souza, B.N., for his outstanding
performance of duty, as officer in charge of Brazilian personnel,
in connection with the fire fighting efforts on 2 May, 1943, which
resulted in avoiding serious damage to United States vessels in the
harbor of Recife, Brazil.

/s/ E. J. KING

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/68)
Date- 6/11/59
Signature- Carl I. Scafe
CONFIDENTIAL

FIRST ENDORSEMENT to 
ComFourthFleet conf. 
1tr. P15/0988 of 20 
September 1943.

From: Commander in Chief, United States Atlantic Fleet
To: The Secretary of the Navy.
Via: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.
Subject: Recommendation for award for meritorious service - 
Capitao Nelson Simas de Souza, B.N., Captain of the Port, Recife, Brazil.

1. Forwarded for consideration.

2. A question of policy is involved, inasmuch as other officers of foreign navies are now operating with U.S. Naval forces or have operated with U.S. Naval forces.

/s/ R.E. INGERSOLL

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/10/59
Signature- Carl I. Speer
UNITED STATES ATLANTIC FLEET
HEADQUARTERS OF
THE COMMANDER FOURTH FLEET
0988 c/o FLEET POST OFFICE, NEW YORK, N. Y.

CONFIDENTIAL

From: The Commander, FOURTH FLEET.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.
Via: (1) The Commander in Chief, U.S. Atlantic Fleet.
       (2) The Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.

Subject: Recommendation for award for meritorious service -
         Capitao Nelson Simas de Souza, B.N., Captain of the Port,
         Recife, Brazil.

   1. At 1015 May 2, 1943, the S.S. LIVINGSTON ROE while discharging
      aviation gasoline in the harbor of Recife, Brazil, caught fire as the result
      of an explosion. The flames spread rapidly throughout the ship and to an
      adjacent warehouse. In a very short time a raging and uncontrolable conflagra-
      tion existed, threatening to engulf the entire dock area and endangering
      the merchant ships and U.S. Naval vessels berthed in the harbor.

   2. Capitao Nelson Simas de Souza arrived at the scene of the fire
      soon after its start and assisted in the coordination of fire fighting opera-
      tions. By his display of initiative and cool judgement in the face of grave
      danger, he was largely responsible for the successful and coordinated com-
      bating of the fire by U.S. and Brazilian personnel, thus saving a valuable
      ship and preventing serious damage to the shipping and dock facilities in the
      harbor.

   3. It is recommended that a LEGION OF MERIT in the order of
      "Officer" be awarded to:

         CAPITAO NELSON SIMAS DE SOUZA, BRAZILIAN NAVY,

For outstanding performance of duty as officer in charge of Brazilian
personnel in the coordinated fire fighting operations on May 2, 1943
when a raging and uncontrolable fire on the S.S. LIVINGSTON ROE and in
Warehouse #2 in the harbor of Recife, Brazil, endangered the safety of
shipping and dock facilities in the harbor. Captain Souza, upon arriving
at the scene of the fire assisted in the coordination of fire fighting
operations in the face of grave danger and was largely responsible by
his display of initiative, judgement and decisive action in minimizing
material damage to the dock facilities and saving a valuable ship from
total destruction. His actions on this occasion were a noteworthy
achievement in vital support of the Allied Cause and thereby furthering
friendly relations between the Americas.

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DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/11/59
Signature- Carl S. Spicer
The Secretary of the Navy has determined that the interests of the Government would be best served by this disposition of the vessel. The Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance requests that authority be granted to use the hull of this vessel in connection with torpedo tests which may involve destruction. The Chief of Naval Operations has certified that the ship is not essential to the defense of the United States as provided in section 1(a) of the Act approved 21 June 1940, (Public 671-76th Congress).

It is recommended that authority be granted to use the PT-35 in connection with torpedo tests at the Naval Torpedo Station, Newport, Rhode Island, as requested by the Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance.

The Act of June 24, 1912, 55 Stat. 2603 (U.S.C. Sup. 1, sec. 1936), provides that the Secretary of the Navy, with the approval of the President, may use for experimental purposes vessels of the U.S. Navy that have been stricken from the Navy Register, provided it has been determined that the use of such vessels will be in furtherance of the national defense. The Chief of Naval Operations has certified that the PT-35 is not essential to the defense of the United States.

Sincerely yours,

Frank Knox

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

Date: 3/10/43

Signature:

Capt. [Redacted]

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/68)

The President's
The Little House

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

PSF

19 Oct 1943

The U.S.S. CERAL (TT-15), previously in use at the Point Sound School, was built in 1913 as a passenger vessel. It was then converted into a passenger vessel and acquired by the U.S. Navy, and was transferred to the Bureau of Ordnance, 29 November 1940 at a cost of $100,000.00. She was stricken from the Navy Register 11 October 1942.

The President's
The Little House

By dear Mr. President:
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

1. There is forwarded, herewith, for your approval a recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals for the award of the Legion of Merit in degree indicated to the following Chilean Officer:

   degree of COMMANDER

   Vice Admiral Vincente Merino, Chilean Navy.

2. It will be noted that the Secretary of the Navy has approved the recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals. The State Department has been consulted and has no objection to this award.

3. If the President approves this award, it is requested that the attached Certificate be signed.

   [Signature]

Frank Knox

[Signature]

[Date]

[Signature]
CONFIDENTIAL

18 October 1943

To: The Secretary of the Navy.

Subj: Legion of Merit Award to Vice Admiral Vincente Merino, Chief of the Chilean Naval Commission in the United States.

1. The Board recommends approval of the award of the Legion of Merit, degree of Commander, to Vice Admiral Vincente Merino, Chilean Navy, for his service as set forth in the basic correspondence.

2. The Board has been informed by the Department of State that that Department has no objection to this award.

A. E. WATSON

APPROVED: 19 OCT 1943

FRANK KNOX
The Secretary of the Navy

CC: Bd of Dec & Medals

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DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)
Date- 2/11/59
Signature- Carl T. Spicer
From: The Commander in Chief, United States Fleet and
Chief of Naval Operations.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.
Subject: Legion of Merit Award to Vice Admiral
Vincente Merino, Chief of the Chilean
Naval Commission in the United States.

1. It is recommended that the Legion of Merit, Degree of
Commander, be awarded to Vice Admiral Vincente Merino, Chief of
the Chilean Naval Commission to the United States, in recognition
of his outstanding performance of duty in Washington, which is
about to terminate.

2. This award will be in keeping with the award to General
Espinosa of the Chilean Army, recently made by the War Department
upon his return to Chile.

E. J. KING.
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 20, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR:

The President.

There is forwarded herewith for your action a recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals for the award of the Legion of Merit (degree of Commander) to Vice Admiral Vincente Merino, Chilean Navy.

This award is recommended in recognition of Vice Admiral Merino's outstanding performance of duty in Washington (Chief of the Chilean Naval Commission), which is about to terminate, and will be in keeping with the award to General Espinosa of the Chilean Army, recently made by the War Department.

In accordance with your desire, and in accordance with the practice of the War Department, the State Department has been consulted and has no objection to this award.

I recommend approval.

Very respectfully,

WILSON BROWN
x 50-13

Certificate signed 10-20-43
Ref. to Navy 10-20-43
MEMORANDUM FOR:

The President.

There is forwarded herewith for your consideration a recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals for the award of the Legion of Merit (degree of Officer) to the following Australian Officer:

Commissioned Warrant Officer M. Ines Harper, R.A.N.R., for distinguished service to the United Nations during the Solomon Islands Campaign. He participated in the initial occupation of Guadalcanal and Tulagi on August 7, 1942. Subsequently he performed invaluable service, under enemy fire, in piloting ships in poorly charted waters, and in bringing to safe harbors ships which had been damaged in action.

In accordance with your desire, and in accordance with the practice of the War Department, the State Department has been consulted and has no objection to this award.

I recommend approval.

Very respectfully,

W. J. Bums

Certificate signed 10-20-42

Certificate signed 10-20-42
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

1. There is forwarded, herewith, for your approval a recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals for the award of the Legion of Merit in the degree indicated to the following Australian Officer:

   [Signature]

   Commissioned Warrant Officer M. Ines Harper, R.A.N.R.

2. It will be noted that the Secretary of the Navy has approved the recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals. The State Department has been consulted and has no objection to this award.

3. If the President approves this award, it is requested that the attached Certificate be signed.

   [Signature]

   Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
   DECLASSIFIED
   DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)
   Date- 2/11/59
   Signature- Carl J. Spencer

   [Signature]

   x 48-10
Fourth Endorsement

To: ComPhibScPac SECRET ltr.
FE25/P15 over Serial 0025b of 11 July 1943.

From: Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals.

To: The Secretary of the Navy.

Via: (1) (2)

Subject: Recommendation for the award of the Distinguished Service Medal to Commissioned Warrant Officer M. INES HARPER, RANR (S).

Reference:

1. Considered at the meeting of the Board of Awards held 19 August 1943.

2. Recommendation: The Board recommends that Commissioned Warrant Officer M. Ines Harper, RANR (S), be awarded the Legion of Merit, Degree of Commander, for his outstanding performance of duty while attached to the Amphibious Force, South Pacific, during the period as set forth in the basic correspondence.

A. E. WATSON

APPROVED 31 AUG 1943

Frank Knox
Secretary of the Navy

CC: Dec & Medals

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Date- 2/11/54

Signature- Carl T. Spicer
THIRD ENDORSEMENT to
ComPhibSoPac SECRET ltr.
FE25/F15 over Serial 0025b
dated 11 July 1943.

From: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.
To: Secretary of the Navy.

Subject: Recommendation for the award of the Distinguished Service Medal to Commissioned Warrant Officer M. INES HARPER, RANR (S).

1. Forwarded, concurring in the first endorsement.

W. R. PURNELL,
Deputy Chief of Staff.
UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
Flagship of the Commander in Chief

5 August 1943

2nd Endorsement on
ComAmphForSoPac
SECRET Ltr. FE25/F15
over Serial 0025b
dated 11 July 1943.

SECRET

From: The Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.
Via: The Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet.

Subject: Recommendation for the award of the Distinguished Service Medal to Commissioned Warrant Officer M. INES HARPER, RANR (S).

1. Forwarded, recommending that Commissioned Warrant Officer M. Ines Harper, RANR(S), be awarded the Legion of Merit.

C.W. NIMITZ

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)
Date- 2/11/59
Signature- Carl S. Figures
SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE
of the United States Pacific Fleet
Headquarters of the Commander

FIRST ENDORSEMENT to:
ComAmphForSoPac SECRET
1tr. FE25/F15 over Ser.
0025b of July 11, 1943.

Jul 25 1943

From:   The Commander South Pacific Area and South Pacific Force.
To:     The Secretary of the Navy.
Vía:    The Commander in Chief, U.S. PACIFIC FLEET.

Subject: Recommendation for the award of the Distinguished Service Medal to Commissioned Warrant Officer M. INES HARPER, RANR (S).

1. Forwarded, recommending the Legion of Merit, First Degree.

Commissioned Warrant Officer HARPER reported to the Amphibious Force, South Pacific, on July 26, 1942, from Port Moresby for temporary duty with United States Forces in connection with the operations against the Japanese-held GOLDEN ISLANDS. Being familiar with the islands in the vicinity of GUAMANIL and TULagi, he was assigned to the leading transport engaged in the landing on GUAM on July 11, 1943. On his return trip from the GUAMANIL-TULAGI area, he led the leading ship through LEMCHER CHANNEL which, to that date, had never been transversed by any United States ships.

J. F. SHAFFROTH,
Deputy Commander
South Pacific

In the subsequent operations, HARPER was of assistance to the operating officers on the staff of the Amphibious Force, South Pacific, in the study of charts of future areas of operations.

In October, he again went forward with the Destroyer Mine-sweeper Group (Flag Squadron T90), of the Amphibious Force, South Pacific, and on October 10th, reported to the Commander South Pacific. During his period of service at that base, he acted as Nagara (less convoy duty), which were unfamiliar with the TULAGI Harbor and assisted the Commander South Pacific to destroy the TULAGI and PAPUA. Several ships which had been unable to leave during this time, he was repeatedly under fire, but continued to assist in work commendably.

A summary of his service during the past twelve months under this command is as follows:

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File No.  
PB25/P5  
Serial 0025b

AMPHIBIOUS FORCE  
SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE  
Office of the Commander

SECRET  

July 11, 1943.

From: Commander Amphibious Force, South Pacific.  
To: Secretary of the Navy.  
Via:  
(1) Commander South Pacific Force and South Pacific Area.  
(2) Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.  
(3) Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Fleet.  

Subject: Recommendation for the award of the Distinguished Service Medal to Commissioned Warrant Officer M. INES HARPER, RANR, Royal Australian Naval Reserve  

Enclosure: (A) Recommended citation.

1. Commissioned Warrant Officer HARPER reported to the Amphibious Force, South Pacific, on July 16, 1942, from PORT MORESBY for temporary duty with United States Forces in connection with the operations against the Japanese held SOLOMON ISLANDS. Being familiar with the waters in the vicinity of GUADALCANAL and TULAGI, he was assigned to duty as the pilot of the leading transport engaged in the landing on GUADALCANAL on August 7, 1942. On the return trip from the GUADALCANAL-TULAGI area, he piloted the leading ship through LENGO CHANNEL which, to that date, had not been transversed by any United States ships.

2. In the subsequent operations MR. HARPER gave invaluable assistance to the Operations officer on the staff of Commander Amphibious Force, South Pacific, in the study of charts of the theater of operations.

3. In October, he again went forward with the Destroyer Minesweeper Group (Mine Squadron TWO), of the Amphibious Force, South Pacific, and on October 12th, reported to the Commander Naval Base, TULAGI for duty. During his period of service at that base, he acted as pilot to bring in many ships, which were unfamiliar with the TULAGI Harbor and also to bring into TULAGI and PURVIS BAY several ships which had been badly damaged in action. During this time, he was repeatedly under fire, but conducted himself in a most commendatory manner.

4. A summary of his service during the past twelve months under this command is as follows:
July 16, 1942.
 Reported to Commander Transport Division TEN for
duty with the Amphibious Force, South Pacific.

August 7, 1942.
 Piloted the U.S.S. HUNTER LIGGETT to the transport
area off GUADALCANAL.

August 9, 1942.
 Piloted the U.S.S. HUNTER LIGGETT out of the
GUADALCANAL-TULAGI area through LENGO CHANNEL.

September 6, 1942.
 Transferred to the U.S.S. HEYWOOD for temporary
duty in connection with training exercises.

September 25, 1942.
 Transferred to the U.S.S. McCAWLEY to advise Com-
mander Amphibious Force, South Pacific, Operations
Officer on SOLOMON ISLANDS charts.

October 3, 1942.
 With U.S.S. HOPKINS on movement of supplies to GUADALCANAL
area.

October 10, 1942.
 On U.S.S. SOUTHARD for transportation to TULAGI;
arrived October 12, 1942.

October 15, 1942.
 Piloted the damaged U.S.S. McFARLAND to MALAILI CREEK.

October 26, 1942.
 Piloted S.S. AMBERJACK to port and back to sea.

November 13, 1942.
 Piloted the damaged U.S.S. AARON WARD into TULAGI Harbor.

November 15, 1942.
 Piloted the damaged U.S.S. PORTLAND into TULAGI Harbor.

November 16, 1942.
 Piloted U.S.S. MEADE to AURILEGO to destroy four beached
Japanese transports and recover survivors of American ships.

November 30, 1942.
 Assisted in refloating the U.S.S. NEVILLE after she had grounded.

December 1, 1942.
 Piloted the damaged U.S.S. PENSACOLA and U.S.S. NEW ORLEANS
into TULAGI Harbor.

December 4, 1942.
 Assisted in refloating the S.S. KENMORE from the reef at the
entrance to TULAGI Harbor.
February 18, 20, 22 & 23, 1943.
Piloted the U.S.S. STRINGHAM to the RUSSELL ISLANDS, in the first two dates with reconnaissance parties and on the last two dates, in connection with the occupation of those islands.

February 27, 1943.
Transferred to U.S.S. MANLEY.

March 1, 1943.
Piloted the U.S.S. MANLEY to LANGATU and returned on March 3, 1943.

March 14, 17, 19, 20, 21, 1943.
Piloted the U.S.S. MANLEY to the RUSSELL ISLANDS.

March 23, 1943.
Returned to the U.S.S. McCANLEY for duty with the staff of Commander Amphibious Force, South Pacific, in connection with the planning of the operations against NEW GEORGIA.

June 30, 1943.
Proceeded with Advance Transport Unit to RENDOVA ISLAND as pilot during a night landing, and remained as pilot for vessels entering RENDOVA Harbor, and for the small craft during the infiltration of United States Forces from that island to NEW GEORGIA.

Commissioned Warrant Officer HARPER has twice been recommended to the Australian Naval Board for promotion to the rank of Lieutenant in the Royal Australian Naval Reserve, by Commander Amphibious Force, South Pacific, and once by Commander South Pacific Force. To date no information has been received as to the action which that board expects to take on these three recommendations. Commander Amphibious Force, South Pacific, cannot speak too highly of the character, courage, cooperation and devotion to duty of Commissioned Warrant Officer HARPER and recommends, in view of the distinguished service which he has performed in connection with the operations of the United Nations against the Japanese forces in the SOLOMON ISLANDS, that he be awarded the Distinguished Service Medal by the President of the United States.

R.K. TURNER.

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Date- 1/11/59
Signature- Carl T. Spier
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

1. There is forwarded, herewith, for your approval a recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals for the award of the Legion of Merit in degree indicated to the following Brazilian Officer:

   degree of OFFICER
   
   Commander Edmundo Jordao Amorim do Valle, Brazilian Navy.

2. It will be noted that the Secretary of the Navy has approved the recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals. The State Department has been consulted and has no objection to this award.

3. If the President approves this award, it is requested that the attached Certificate be signed.

   [Signature]

Certificate signed 12-7-42
Need to be Sec. Navy 12-14-42

Frank Knox

Certificate signed 12-7-42
Need to be Sec. Navy 12-14-42

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Date- 2/11/59
Signature- Carl T. Spero
CONFIDENTIAL

27 November 1943

From: The Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.

Subj: Legion of Merit Award to Commander Edmundo Jordao Amorim do Valle, Naval Attaché to the Brazilian Embassy in Washington.

1. The Board recommends approval of the award of the Legion of Merit, Degree of Officer, to Commander Amorim do Valle, Brazilian Naval Attaché to Washington, for his service as set forth in the basic correspondence.

2. The Board has been informed by the Department of State that that Department has no objection to this award.

A. E. WATSON

End--2
APPROVED:

The Secretary of the Navy

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)
Date- 2/11/69
Signature- Carl I. Stancer

CC: Bd of Dec & Medals
NAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON

From: Chief of Naval Operations.
To: Secretary of the Navy (Board of Decorations and Medals).
Subj: Legion of Merit Award to Commander Edmundo Jordaõ Amorim do Valle, Naval Attache to the Brazilian Embassy in Washington.
Encl: (A) Information re subject officer.

1. It is understood that subject officer will be leaving the United States in December to return to Brazil. On the occasion of the termination of his present duties as Naval Attache to the Brazilian Embassy and as member, Inter-American Defense Board, it is considered desirable that he be presented with the Legion of Merit Award, Degree of Officer.

2. It is, therefore, recommended that Commander Amorim do Valle be awarded the Legion of Merit, Degree of Officer, just prior to the termination of his duties in Washington.

3. Enclosure (A) contains a recommended citation and other information concerning subject officer.

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Date- 2/11/59
Signature- [Signature]
BRAZIL

Name: Edmundo Jordao Amorim do Valle.

Official Mail Address: Brazilian Embassy, Washington, D.C.

Rank and Position: Commander, Brazilian Navy-Naval Attache and Member, Inter-American Defense Board.

Decoration: Legion of Merit - OFFICER.

Citation: For exceptionally meritorious conduct and outstanding service in positions of responsibility. As Naval Attache to Washington and Member of Inter-American Defense Board, Commander Amorim do Valle made an outstanding contribution to strengthen the ties of friendship between his country and the United States of America.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

1. There is forwarded, herewith, for your approval a recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals for the award of the Silver Star Medal to the following British Officer:

CAPTAIN CECIL A. L. HANBERGH, ROYAL NAVY.

2. It will be noted that the Secretary of the Navy has approved the recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals. The State Department has been consulted and has no objection to this award.

[Signature]

OIC

JBR

12-17-43

x48-A

Engrailed to Navy 12-17-43

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)
Date- 2/11/59
Signature- Carl F. Spencer
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

1. There is forwarded, herewith, for your approval a recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals for the award of the Legion of Merit in the degree indicated to the following British Officer:

   **LEGION OF MERIT, degree of Officer**

   Lieutenant Thomas O. Sexton, British Solomon Islands
   Protectorate Defense Force.

2. It will be noted that the Secretary of the Navy has approved the recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals. The State Department has been consulted and has no objection to this award.

3. If the President approves this award, it is requested that the attached certificate be signed.

   
   
   Certificate signed 12-17-43

   Return to Navy 12-17-43

   [Signature]

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   DOC DIR. 5200.9 (3/27/58)
   Date: JAN 28 1972
   Signature: FDR
FIFTH ENDORSEMENT to
S.I.O., N.S.O., Brisbane,
QLD, Australia secret ltr.
dated 22 May, 1943.

From: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.
To: Secretary of the Navy.
Subject: Recommendations for awards.

1. Forwarded, attention invited to the third endorsement hereon.

W. R. PURNELL,
Deputy Chief of Staff.
NAVY DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON

16 August 1943

Fourth Endorsement
to S.I.O., H.S.O., Brisbane,
QLD, Australia secret ltr.
dated 22 May 1943.

From: Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals.

To: The Secretary of the Navy.

Via: (1) Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Fleet.
(2)

Subject: Recommendations for awards.

Reference:

1. Considered at the meeting of the Board of Decorations and Medals, held 12 August 1943.

2. Recommendation: The Board recommends that Captian D. G. Kennedy, B.S.I.P.D.F., be awarded the Navy Cross in recognition of his action as a Coastwatcher since the Japanese occupation of Guadalcanal in May 1942 and for effectively organizing and controlling the native population of the New Georgia group as described in the basic correspondence.

3. The Board further recommends that Lieutenant T. O. Sexton, B.S.I.P.D.F. by awarded the Legion of Merit, degree of officer, for his outstanding performance of duty as officer-in-charge of coastwatching station in the Solomon Islands area during the period from May to August 1942 and also for maintaining a regular daily radio schedule as described herein.

A. E. WATSON

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DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/68)

CC: Bd of Dec & Medals
Cominch

Date- JAN 28 1972
Signature- RHF
THIRD ENDORSEMENT to
S.I.O., N.S.O. Brisbane,
QLD, Australia secret ltr
dated 22 May, 1943.

From: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet
and Chief of Naval Operations.
To: Secretary of the Navy.
Subject: Recommendations for awards.

1. Forwarded, concurring in the recommendation of the
Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

E. J. KING.
2nd ENDORSEMENT on
S.I.O., N.S.O, Brisbane, QLD, Australia
Secret Ltr. Dated 22
May, 1943.

From: The Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.
Via: The Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet.

Subject: Recommendations for awards.

1. Forwarded, concurring with the recommendations of
the Commander South Pacific Force in paragraph one of the first
endorsement that Captain D.G. Kennedy, British Solomon Islands
Protectorate Defense Force, be awarded the Navy Cross and that Lieut-
tenant T.O. Saxton, British Solomon Islands Protectorate Defense
Force, be awarded the Legion of Merit.

C. W. NIMITZ

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CDD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/68)
Date- JAN 28 1972
Signature- RWP
FIRST ENDORSEMENT to
Supervising Intelligence Officer, 
Naval Staff Office, Brisbane, QLD, 
Australia Secret Ltr. dated 22nd 
May, 1943.

From: The Commander South Pacific Area and 
      South Pacific Force.
To: The Secretary of the Navy.
Via: The Commander in Chief, U.S. PACIFIC 
      FLEET.

Subject: Recommendations for awards.

Enclosure: (A) Suggested Citations.

1. Forwarded, recommending the award of the Navy Cross, 
in the case of Captain D.J. KENNEDY, British Solomon Islands Protectorate 
Defense Force; and the award of the Legion of Merit, Third Degree, in the 
case of Lieutenant T.O. SEXTON, British Solomon Islands Protectorate Defense 
Force.

2. The other officers mentioned in the basic letter have 
been previously recommended for appropriate awards.

W. F. HALSEY

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d 8 911 5209.9 (9/27/68)

DATE:  JAN 28 1972

SIGNATURE: RGP
While in Noumea sometime ago Captain Browning asked me to submit through you the names of any officers in the Coast Watching Organisation who were considered eligible for decorations.

2. Recommendations are therefore now submitted regarding:

Captain D.G. KENNEDY, B.S.I.P.D.F.
Sub-Lieutenant D.C. HORTON, R.A.N.V.R.
Sub-Lieutenant H.E. JOSSELYN, R.A.N.V.R.,
Lieutenant T.O. SEXTON, B.S.I.P.D.F.

3. Of these Captain Kennedy is, without doubt, the outstanding figure in the Organisation in the B.S.I.P. Area.

4. Colonel Edson, the then Commanding Officer of the 1st Marine Raider Battalion spoke in high terms of the fearlessness of Sub-Lieutenants Horton and Josselyn in the storming of Tulagi and the immediately following patrol activity in that area, and it is understood that some recommendation regarding them was made at that time. The record of each since then has been the same, efficient and calm devotion to duty in positions of great danger over a prolonged period.

5. Sexton is in a different category, and is recommended for some decoration which may be earned other than in the face of the enemy.

6. Records of the services of the four officers on which the recommendations are based are attached hereto.

/s/ MACKENZIE

Lieutenant Commander, R.A.N.,
Supervising Intelligence Officer.

Present address: c/o D.S.I.O.
GUADALCANAL.

Has shown outstanding ability and courage in action against the enemy. Has been continuously on duty as a Coastwatcher since the Japanese occupation in May, 1942.

Has so organised and controlled the entire native population of the New Georgia group that they have remained loyal and take active steps against the enemy whenever the opportunity occurs.

Has organised and trained 50 otherwise peaceloving and "chicken hearted" natives into an efficient scouting and fighting force which he has personally led in successful skirmishes with enemy stragglers.

Equally with Lieutenant READ in Bougainville he was responsible that warning was given in good time of every major enemy air raid on Guadalcanal from the U.S. landing in August, 1942, to the final Japanese evacuation in early February, 1943.

Has been responsible for the capture of approximately 20 Japanese airmen and the destruction of an equal number attempting to escape through his area back to the Japanese lines.

Has been responsible for the rescue of over 20 forced-down U.S. airmen.

Reported the presence in Wickham Anchorage of the 4 Japanese ships sunk by U.S. aviation in December, 1942.

In January, 1942, with a small armed native patrol intercepted a party of 12 enemy troops on Vanganu Island. Kennedy attacked at night using a signal lamp for illumination. After a stiff fight 8 enemy were killed. The remaining 4 escaped but were eventually hunted down and killed by his scouts.

On February 10th Kennedy attacked two armed enemy barges containing 19 Japanese. By the skillful use of grenades and captured Japanese machine guns 9 of the enemy were killed, one barge destroyed and the other captured intact. The remaining 10 enemy were hunted down and killed by scouts. Two of Kennedy's scouts were wounded but have since recovered.

On 19th May, 1943, Kennedy encountered and killed a well armed Japanese patrol of 10 men on Marovo Lagoon. He himself and several of his native scouts were slightly wounded.

Kennedy has been described as a "one man army". His personal courage and resourcefulness in dangerous situations are an inspiration to all who have come in contact with him.
DICK CROFTON HORTON, Sub-Lieutenant, R.A.N.V.R.

Present address: c/o D.S.I.O.
GUADALCANAL.

Landed with the 1st U.S.M.C. Raider Battalion in the "first wave" of the attack on TULAGI A.M. 7th August, 1942. Subsequently led "mopping up" patrols on TULAGI and FLORIDA Islands during August.

Accompanied offensive patrols of "Raiders" against the enemy at SAVO Island and on GUADALCANAL during September, 1942, on account of his knowledge of the area.

In December, 1942, established himself as Coastwatcher P.W.D. in the Munda airfield area, moving in January 1943 to a position on RENDOVA Island overlooking the Japanese positions at MUNDA. Since then he has maintained himself and his equipment in this difficult and dangerous position and has sent in, by radio, continuous valuable reports on the enemy air and land activities and dispositions in his area. This work has been carried out at great personal risk, with only native assistants, and with permanent strong enemy outposts operating on each side and within 5 miles of his position.

He has been responsible for the preservation and evacuation of 22 Chinese from RENDOVA and the rescue of many U.S. airmen shot down in his area.
HENRY E. JOSSELYN, Sub-Lieutenant, R.A.N.V.R.

Present address: c/o D.S.I.O. GUADALCANAL.

Landed with the 1st Raider Battalion, U.S.M.C., in the "first wave" of the attack on TULAGI on the morning of 7th August, 1942. Continued serving with the "Raiders" during August leading "mopping up" patrols on TULAGI and FLORIDA Islands.

During November 1942 he was landed with a European assistant at MUNDIMUNDI on VELLA LAVELLA Island. He established the Coastwatching post NRY, organised the local natives as scouts and has continued since then to send in invaluable radio reports of enemy activity, such as warning of the movement towards GUADALCANAL of enemy warships. ("the TOKYO Express" of earlier days), formations of enemy aircraft around and on VELLA LAVELLA Island.

His work has been carried out at great personal risk. An enemy coastwatching post of 7 men has continued operating within 4 miles of his position since November and frequent enemy foraging and scouting patrols have endangered his existence.

His reports have directly resulted in the destruction by U.S. Forces of enemy warships and merchant vessels. He has saved the lives of many U.S. airmen shot down or forced down in his area.

present address: 68 Carabella Street, KIRRIBILLI, SYDNEY.

Was Officer-in-Charge of the Coastwatching key station Z G J on MALAITA Island during the Japanese occupation of the Eastern SOLOMON Islands from May to August, 1942. As such he was personally responsible that the Coastwatchers' reports from this area were relayed to the outside world promptly and accurately.

Working with a low powered teleradio, Sexton with infinite patience maintained 4 schedules per day with VILA, overcoming difficulties which would have disheartened a less competent and patient an operator, and all reports were sent through.

Sexton was definitely the right man in the right place and to him is due a lot of the credit that accurate enemy intelligence was available for the planning of the successful U.S. offensive against Japan in the Solomons.
In the name of the President of the United States, the Secretary of
the Navy takes pleasure in awarding the NAVY CROSS to

CAPTAIN DONALD G. KENNEDY, BRITISH SOLOMON
ISLANDS PROTECTORATE DEFENCE FORCE

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

"For extraordinary heroism and distinguished service as a Coast-
watcher since the Japanese occupation in May, 1942. Captain KENNEDY so
effectively organized and controlled the native population of the New
Georgia group that not only have they remained loyal, but have also been
successfully trained by him as an effective scouting and fighting force.
He has been instrumental in issuing aircraft warning to our forces and
has rescued a large number of our pilots who have been forced down. Cap-
tain KENNEDY has led native patrols against Japanese landing and scouting
parties with such courage and skill as to repel and entirely destroy sev-
eral enemy groups. He is also responsible for the capturing of approximately
twenty Japanese airmen and the destruction of at least an equal number.
His heroic conduct has been in keeping with the highest traditions of the
Allied Forces."

FRANK KNOX
In the name of the President of the United States, the Secretary of the Navy takes pleasure in awarding the Legion of Merit, Degree to

LIEUTENANT THOMAS OLIVER SEXTON, BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE DEFENCE FORCE

for service as set forth in the following CITATION:

"For exceptionally meritorious service as Officer-In-Charge of a coast-watching station in the Solomon Islands area during the period from May to August, 1942. Lieutenant SEXTON, working with infinite patience, and under extreme difficulties maintained a regular daily radio schedule. He was responsible for the prompt relaying to the outside world of accurate reports on the conduct of the Japanese in that area which contributed materially to the successful planning of the American offensive in the Solomons. His conduct was in keeping with the highest traditions of the Allied Forces."

FRANK KNOX

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Date- JAN 28 1972
Signature- R&D