

PSF

C.F.

Navy Dept.

1943

Allocation No. 42/3-95

PSF

b. F.

Navy

7

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

~~79~~  
~~Authorization~~

JAN 1 1943

My dear Mr. Secretary:

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

<u>To</u>	<u>Amount</u>	
Navy Department	\$500,000	x18

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. x133

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.

x21

x b. F. Treasury  
x 79 Authorization Treasury No. 42/3-95

Copy For White House Files

HDS



Forster:

The Director presented the attached personally and brought back the entire file.

A. Woernle  
Bureau of the Budget

EX-100

The Secretary of the Army has advised a request for information from your Department regarding the proposed...

The attached is herewith being forwarded for your information and to advise you that the proposed...

The proposed program is a continuation of the work...

Very truly yours,  
A. Woernle

Handwritten signature

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
BUREAU OF THE BUDGET  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

JAN 1 1943

~~SECRET~~

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. x18-R

*Filed to F. Navy*

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.

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
Director  
x79

x203

UNCLASSIFIED  
REGRADED

file

*L.F.*

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

BUREAU OF THE BUDGET

WASHINGTON, D. C.

February 5, 1943

*Navy*  
*F 2/17/43*

|| ~~SECRET~~

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?

x 25

*Wm. H. ...*  
Director

\*79 Authorization Treasury 70.42/3-95  
x203  
x18  
x18-R  
x4675

x79

REGRADED  
UNCLASSIFIED

(661)

*hm*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*C. F.*  
*Navy*

February 22, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR

x93

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY *x18*

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.

x25

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

-2-

Perhaps 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.



PSF 7

*C. F.*  
*Navy*

February 24, 1943

(SC)P15/EP28  
(05800A)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FEB 24 1943

Memorandum for the President.

Subject: Monsieur Rene' Malavergne <sup>\*</sup> 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.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature- *Carl L. Spear*

X18  
X357  
X203  
X4675-L  
X203-E

*Orig. ret'd to Sec Navy  
2/26/43*

*JIC  
OIC  
JIC  
2-26-43*

MONSIEUR RENÉ 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 Lyautey Airfield, French Morocco, on November 10, 1942.

Monsieur Malavergne 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 Lyautey 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 Malavergne 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.

ENCLOSURE (A)

COMINCH FILE

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

FF1/P15

Serial: 0577

FEB 23 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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.

~~RECEIVED~~  
~~NAVY DEPT~~

FEB 23 1943

R. S. EDWARDS,  
Chief of Staff.

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75193  
2 3

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature-

*Carl J. Spicer*

547

COMINCH LITE

P15(C)

**CONFIDENTIAL**

QB4-HBY

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

FEB 20 1943

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 Lyautey, French Morocco - Navy Cross for.

Reference: (a) CinCLant's ltr of Feb. 10, 1943 serial 0336.  
(b) Cominch'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 Lyautey, 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 is a member of the Fighting French having formerly been a river pilot of the Oued Sebou, Port Lyautey, French Morocco. In accordance with his directive the final approval of the President is required for the award.

A. E. WATSON

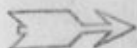
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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature-

*Carl J. Spicer*

Copy to:  
Bd of Dec & Medals  
Secy Files  
Cominch



COMINCH FILE

UNITED STATES FLEET

HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF

NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D. C.

FF1/P15

Serial: 0480

FEB 15 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~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 Oued Sebou, Port  
Lyautey, French Morocco - Navy Cross for.

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

E. J. KING.

x 18-R

NC

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature- Carl L. Spicer

RECEIVED FEB 15 1943

FEB

BL D+M

P15/EF28

745874



(693)

hm

Original of this letter returned to the  
Secy. of the Navy, as per the President's notation.

3/3/43

hm

PSF

*L. F.*  
*Navy*

*WJL*

February 25, 1943

(SC)P16-1/KK

(05200A)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
**CONFIDENTIAL**

x18-E

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

x18

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature- Carl S. Spicer

*"7.1K.  
3,000 officers  
etc.  
7.D.R."*

The President

The White House

x18-E Women's Reserve

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 29, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR:

The President.

Lieutenant Commander Willem Jan Kruids,  
Royal Netherlands Navy, Commanding Officer of  
the N.D. TIERK HIDDIS, 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.

*In Dec 42*  
Lieutenant Commander Kruids made three  
hazardous trips (in the TIERK HIDDIS) 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. T. Brown*  
WILSON BROWN.

*150-B*

PSF

115441

COPY

*C. F.*  
*Navy*

~~SECRET~~

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
Office of the Secretary  
Washington

March 26, 1943

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. <sup>x</sup>TJERK HIDDERS in recognition of his outstanding service in the successful accomplishment in evacuating troops from TIMOR during the current war.

x 357-13

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.

x 246

s/ FRANK KNOX

x 18

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

F. K. March 29, 1943

OK

F. D. R.

Date- 2/9/59

Signature- Carl S. Spicer

MARCH 16, 1943

~~SECRET~~

Fourth Endorsement  
t CTF-51 Secret ltr P15/00/RNH  
Serial 00172 of Jan. 16, 1943.

Board of Decorations and  
Medals.

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 Krays, Royal Netherlands Navy, Commanding Officer of the H.D.  
TJERK HIDDERS.

Reference (a) CTF-51 secret ltr P15/00/RNH 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 Krays, Royal  
Netherlands Navy, Commanding Officer of the H.D. TJERK HIDDERS, 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 TINER dur-  
ing 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:

NAVY DEPARTMENT

MAR 24 1943

FRANK HICKS

Secretary of the Navy.

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/68)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature- Carl L. Spicer

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

OFFICE  
DELIVERY  
NO. 3912

COMINCH FILE

FF1/P15

Serial: 00320

Feb 19, 1943

~~SECRET~~

SECOND ENDORSEMENT to  
CTF-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 Kruids, Royal Netherlands  
Navy, Commanding Officer of the N.D. TJERK HIDDIS.  
1. Forwarded, recommending approval.

/s/ E. J. KING.

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature- Carl L. Spence

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

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
Navy Department, Washington, D.C.  
20 February, 1943.

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



P15

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC FORCE

Serial 0071

January 26, 1943.

~~SECRET~~

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. TJEK 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. CARY JONES,  
Chief of Staff.

Copy to:  
CTF-51

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ODD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/88)

Date- 2/4/59

Signature- Carl S. Spicer

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/4/59

Signature- Carl D. Spicer

pl5/00/RNN

U.S. NAVAL FORCES  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Serial 00172

January 16, 1943.

~~SECRET~~

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. TJERK HIDDES.

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

Enclosure: (A) Commanding Officer TJERK 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, TJERK 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 TJERK 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 TJERK 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

P15/00/RNN

U.S. NAVAL FORCES  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Serial 00172

January 16, 1943.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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

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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. Approx-  
imately 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 accom-  
plishment of this hazardous and difficult task.

/s/ C. A. LOCKWOOD, JR.

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DDO DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/68)

Date- 2/4/59

Signature-

Carl L. Spicer

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

2/1/59

Date: January 6, 1943

H.N.M.S. Tierk Hiddes

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, KOEPANG, 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 KOEPANG 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. 12°S., thence West, (b) from KOEPANG, 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 1425z R.D.F. watch was set and land echos 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 asdic watch set. Several bonfires were observed, but none were at beach level. The ship then made a search to starboard at a range of 8,000 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



~~SECRET~~

Subject: Report on operations to Timor from Port Darwin.

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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 1600z 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 alung 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 1755z 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 1745z the ship commenced weighing anchor and at 1812z 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 1845z (2 hours before first light).

Course was set for Cape Don at 1812z, speed 20 knots. At 1820z 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 2210z 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 east 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 1315z. 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



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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/60)

~~SECRET~~

Date- 2/9/59

Signature- Carl L. Spicer

Subject: Report on operations to Timor from Port Darwin.

asdic and echo sounding watch set. On this occasion it had been arranged to have the beach fires lighted at 1400z. At a range of 3,000 yards from shore at 1445z speed was reduced to dead slow and cable veered to 50 fathoms. At 1500z the beach party were challenged. At 1502z the ship anchored in 20 fathoms of water 1/2 mile from beach. The same precautions were taken against surprise on this operation.

13 At 1507z the first flight of boats left the ship. The second flight landed five tons of stores and by 1630z about 240 Australian troops of 2/2nd Ind/ Coy and about 30 Portugese muns and priests were embarked. At 1645z ship was under way and proceeded as in the first operation to point "X" at a speed of 30 knots. Favorable cloud cover was again encountered.

14. At 0001z/16th an unidentified plane was sighted on bearing 320° disappearing in clouds and at 0002z three Beaufighters were seen.

During the return passage the ships course was diverted via Dundas Strait owing to the probability of a daylight air raid on Port Darwin.

Port Darwin was reached at 0909z.

15. The third and last operation was carried out on 18th December, leaving Port Darwin at 1530z/17th, destination Aliambata 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 Aliambata) 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 deat slow, approach course 315° on Aliambata obelisk which was clearly visible in the moonlight. At 1515z ship anchored in 10 fathoms of water half a mile from beach.

16. 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 Portugese 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.

17. 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.

~~SECRET~~

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 Arafoera 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 best 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 strom ratins 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, fighter protection was provided until 0900z/20th. Speed was increased to 30 knots until 2200z/20th so as to pass the reefs of the daily Japanese reconnaissance plane during dark hours. Course was steered so as to pass through position 18°55' South, 118°28' East. On 20th/20th/44 a weather and perhaps a lower quality of oil fuel obtained in Port Darwin, and foul bottom, it was found that an unusual increase in oil consumption prevented the ship reaching Geraldton in safety.

~~SECRET~~

Subject: Report on operations to Timor from Port Darwin.

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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. KRUYSS, Lt.Cdr. R.N.N.,  
Commanding Officer,  
H.N.M.S. TJERK HIDDES.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date: 2/9/59

Signature: *Carl L. Spicer*

NAVAL MESSAGE

192353

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

CERTIFIED TO BE A PARAPHRASED COPY

/s/ JOHN F CONNERY

RDO CANBERRA

USRAD PERTH



0755Z/19

WITH GREAT EFFICIENCY ND TJERK HIDDES HAS SUCCESSFULLY  
COMPLETED LAST OF 3 OPERATIONS X INTEND SAILING HER FOR  
FREMANTLE 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

2 448

CONFIDENTIAL  
3025-100-10  
PLANT P. 1013

*file*

*MS*

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:

	<u>March 31, 1943</u>	<u>February 28, 1943</u>	<u>Net Gain For Month</u>
Regular Navy	319,935	315,938	3,997
Retired, Active	7,218	7,202	16
Fleet Reserve	8,039	8,033	6
Women's Reserve	10,776	7,567	3,209
Other Reserve	<u>927,645</u>	<u>868,201</u>	<u>59,444</u>
	<u>1,273,613</u>	<u>1,206,941</u>	<u>66,672</u>

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

Very respectfully,

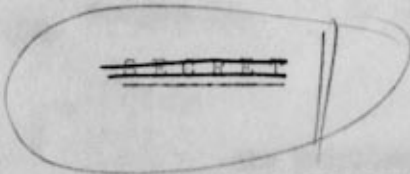
*Frank Knox*

The President,  
The White House.

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
WASHINGTON

PSF

*B.F. Navy*



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.

x357

*Franklin D. Roosevelt* x18

*Approval recommended*

*W. T. Brown*

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature-

*Carl S. Speer*

Prepared-----April 9, 1943

Pers328-hwb

Signed 4-30-43

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



COPI

COMINCH FILE

FF1/P15

Serial: 00578

UNITED STATES FLEET

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

~~SECRET~~

FIFTH ENDORSEMENT to  
CFP-42 Secret Ltr. FF12-15  
(42)F15/00-He: 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

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature- *Carl S. Spicer*

*White House Copy*

COMMANDER TASK FORCE FORTY-TWO

File FF12-15942)/P15/90-He

c/o Fleet Post Office,  
San Francisco, Calif.  
February 21, 1943

Serial 0055

~~SECRET~~

From: The Commander Task Force FORTY-TWO.  
TO: The Secretary of the Navy.  
Via: The Commander Southwest Pacific Force.  
Subject: Commander Howard W. Gilmore, U.S. Navy, deceased;  
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 BRITIAN, NEW IRELAND and NEW HANOVER Islands, covering the approaches to RABAU and KAVIENG. 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 5425 ton freighter by torpedo fire, both torpedoes fired scoring hits. On January 30, a second freighter of about 6500 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.

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

- 1 -

Date- 2/9/59

Signature- Carl L. Spicer

COMMANDER TASK FORCE FORTY-TWO

File FF12-15(42)/P15/00-He

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c/p Fleet Post Office  
San Francisco, Calif.

Serial 0055

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (8/27/58) February 21, 1943

Date-

~~SECRET~~

Signature-

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

4. GROWLER was patrolling on the surface during the early morning of February 7 when, at OLLO(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 skilfully 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 plating 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 .60 cal. bullets ripped through the thin side plating 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 dived and her well-organized 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.



COMMANDER TASK FORCE FORTY-TWO

File FF12-15(42)/P15/00-He

c/o Fleet Post Office,  
San Francisco, California

Serial 0055

February 21, 1943

~~SECRET~~

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.

6. 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. CROWLER, 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 comparative 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.

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

/s/ JAMES FIFE

JAMES FIFE

Date- 2/9/59

Signature- Carl L. Spicer



COPY

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC FORCE

F15

Serial 00177

February 25, 1943

~~SECRET~~

FIRST ENDORSEMENT TO:  
CTF-42 Secret ltr. F15/00 (0055)  
of February 21, 1943.

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

Roosevelt Library

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature-

Carl L. Spicer

COPY

COMINCH FILE  
PFI/P15

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

Serial : 00482

March 18, 1943

~~SECRET~~

SECOND ENDORSEMENT to  
CTF-12 Secret ltr. P15/00 (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

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/59)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature- *Carl L. Spicer*

COPY

QB4-OHA

March 24, 1943

Third

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

Board of Decorations and  
~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~  
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

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/88)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature-

Carl L. Spicer

Copy to:  
Bd of Dec & Medals  
Cominch

COPY

Pers328-HBY

~~SECRET~~

FOURTH ENDORSEMENT

to CTF-42 Secret Ltr FF12-15  
(42)/P15/00-He: 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- 2/9/59

Signature- *Carl S. Spicer*

Copy to:  
Bd of Dec & Medals  
Cominch



RSF  
G. F.  
Navy  
Pers 328--jls

Prepared--April 19, 1947<sub>3</sub>

Signed 5-1-43

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

x357

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 loaded 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. Casbarian, Public Relations

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

Ref: ComSoPac Conf ltr P15/(02) Ser 0176 Feb 7, 1943 Bd Awds Misc G

14-00000-1  
14-00000-1  
14-00000-1

7

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

April 30, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR:

The President.

Approval of the attached Medal of Honor citation is recommended.

Very respectfully,

*W. Brown*  
WILSON BROWN.  
x50-B

*Orig ret'd. to Adm Brown  
5-3-43*

ADDRESS REPLY TO  
THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
AND REFER TO INITIALS  
AND No.

NAVY DEPARTMENT  
WASHINGTON

Pers-328-VS

April 30, 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*  
x18

Pers-650-JW

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ //

Third Endorsement

*Apr 7 / 43*

From: The Chief of Naval Personnel  
To: The Secretary of the Navy

Subject: MUNRO, Douglas Albert, SMlc, 217-739, U. S. Coast Guard.

Reference: (a) Comsopac conf. ltr. P15/(02) Serial 0176 of Feb. 7, 1943.

1. Forwarded, concurring in the recommendation of the Board of Awards.

*15/ L E Denfeld*

L. E. Denfeld  
The Assistant Chief of Naval Personnel

-----  
APPROVED:

*Apr 7 / 43*

*15/ Frank Knox*  
Secretary of the Navy

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature-

*Carl L. Spicer*

Copy To:  
Ed Dec. & Medls.  
U. S. Coast Guard  
Cdr. South Pac. Area  
& South Pacific Force.

*White House Copy*

CONFIDENTIAL

NAVY DEPARTMENT  
WASHINGTON

Address reply to  
THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
AND REFER TO INITIALS  
and no.  
QB4-OHA

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.

Reference: (a) Comsopac conf. ltr. P15/(02) Serial 0176 of Feb. 7, 1943.

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

Copy to:  
Bd of Dec & Medals  
U. S. Coast Guard

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature- Paul J. Spicer



CONFIDENTIAL  
SECRET

Cincpac File No.  
Pac-07-wlw  
P15/ SOL

UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET  
FLAGSHIP OF THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF

Serial 0369

1st Endorsement on  
Cincpac Conf. Ltr.  
P15/ (02) Serial 0176  
of February 7, 1943.

CONFIDENTIAL

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, SMLc, 217-739,  
U. S. Coast Guard.

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

C.W. NIMITZ

COPY-VBS

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature- Carl S. Spicer

Serial 0176  
BTP 20F  
BAC-0A-ATA  
CINCOPAC 117

COMSOPAC FILE

**PL5/(02)**

**SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE**  
OF THE UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET  
HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER

**Serial: 0176**

FEB 7 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

**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, SMlc., 217-739,  
USCG.

**Reference:** (a) CO NOB GUADALCANAL Conf. ltr. PL5/ of  
October 24, 1942.

**Enclosure:** (A) Copy of reference (a).  
(B) CO Amphibious Force South Pacific Force  
Conf. ltr. PL5/ 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.

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Date- 2/9/59

Signature- Carl L. Speer

NAVAL OPERATING BASE  
KUKUM BEACH,  
GUADALCANAL, B.S.I.

P15

October 24, 1942

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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 1st Marine Division Headquarters that a rapid evacuation of 1st Battalion, 7th Regiment, 1st 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 beach-head 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.

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

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7/9/59  
Cox R. Evans

CONFIDENTIAL

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 about action, it is recommended that the following awards be made:

MEDAL OF HONOR

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

Citation

For extraordinary heroism over , and above the line of duty as officer in charge of a group of Higgin 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 lose of life was remarkably small.

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature- Carl L. Hickey



C O P Y

FK  
OK  
FDR

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

WASHINGTON you authorize:

5/3/43

April 26, 1943

PSF

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
-----  
-----  
-----

(SC)P16-1/KK  
012800A

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

*B. F.*  
*Navy*

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Personnel requirements of Marine Corps.

x 18-8

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.

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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

x18

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (8/27/58)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature- Carl L. Spicer

~~Secret~~

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

*C. F.*

*Navy*

May 3, 1943.

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. Brown*  
WILSON BROWN.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

*150-B*

~~DECLASSIFIED~~

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

*x18  
x550*

Date- *2/9/59*

Signature- *Carl L. Spicer*

*Wtd to Adm Brown in sealed envelope numbered 175-*

*This list of names was approved JIC. OIC. JDC 5-3-43*

Mrs Bonsted

This list of commanders  
was stamped confidential-  
I asked Adm. Brown's office  
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.  
Forster. 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.

F. Miller

June 10  
5PM

PSF

*C. F.*  
*Navy*

May 24, 1943.

~~STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL~~

Memorandum for the President

x206

Copy to: Mrs. Roosevelt x1172  
Secretary Earle  
Admiral Wilson Brown  
Miss Grace Tully  
Mr. Gris  
Mr. Reilly x217

The President will participate in presentation ceremonies to be held at the Washington Navy Yard on June 10, 1943, 3.00 P. M., in connection with the transfer of a FG 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. W.

x4193  
x18-B  
x18  
x136-Misc. Broadcasting Folder

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DATE 11-20-98 BY 60322/UC



3.

The Greek Ambassador has indicated that Thursday, June 10, 1943, would be a convenient time for the presentation of the PC Boat.

June  
10.

4.45?

June 10 - 43

approved by  
the President

~~SECRET~~

May 21, 1943.

~~MEMORANDUM FOR:~~

The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

Subject: PC Boat for Greece.

References: (a) WONO Secret Memo Op13-B/hjm, Serial No. 052913 (8C) L11-7/EP31, dated May 18, 1943.

1. The President notes with satisfaction that a Greek crew will be ready to take over a PC any time after 10 June with the assistance of certain volunteers from the American Navy. The President and the Greek Minister have agreed upon 10 June as the date for the presentation. The President desires 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 chaser to Holland.

2. The President requests that you consult the State Department in the arrangement of all further details.

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.

Wilson Brown,  
Rear Admiral, U.S.N.,  
Naval Aide to the President.

Franklin D. Roosevelt  
DECLASSIFIED  
DOD DIR. 5800.9 (9/27/88)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature- *Carl A. Spear*

Copy to:  
General Watson

X18-X

5,00

June 10

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.

H. S. B. M. ?

C O P Y      May 19, 1943

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



# BUREAU OF AERONAUTICS

*PSF  
C. F.  
NAVY*

IN		From:	OUT		IN	Subject:	OUT		IN	Date:	OUT	
Initial	Date		Initial	Date			Initial	Date			Initial	Date
		CHIEF OF BUREAU				MATERIAL BRANCH						ENGINEERING DIVISION
		ASSISTANT CHIEF				PROCUREMENT DIVISION						Airplane Design
		Aide to Chief				Contracts						Assistant
		ADMINISTRATION				Inspection						Class Desk A
		General Information				Costs						Class Desk B
		CHIEF CLERK				Procurement Planning						Class Desk C
		Assistant				MAINTENANCE DIVISION						Class Desk D
		File Clerk				Expenditures and Costs						Class Desk E
		Mail Clerk				Operating Requirements						Class Desk F
		FINANCIAL DIVISION				Assistant						New Design
		EXECUTIVE BRANCH				Overhaul						Technical
		<u>X</u> PLANS DIVISION				Shop Equipment						Aerodynamics
		Policy and Programs				Aircraft Power Plants						Structures
		Aircraft and Equipment				Prope., Ins., Surveys						Design Approval
		Programs and Allocations				Distribution and Records						Flight Tests
		War Plans				Assistant						Specifications
		Assistant				Engine Records						Drafting
		FLIGHT DIVISION				Airplane Records						Files, B/P
		Personnel				Miscellaneous Records						Technical Information
		Training				Engines and Accessories						Patents
		Reserves				Allowance Lists						Records
		Statistics				Launching and Arresting Gear						Equipment
		Operations				A. & R. Plant						Radio and Electrical
		Aerology				Shore Establishments (Secy's Office)						Armament
		Photography				AIRSHIP DIVISION						Instruments
		MARINE CORPS DIVISION				Airship Design						Ships' Installations
						Helium						Carriers
						PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION						Catapults
						Public Utilities						Flight Gear
												Power-Plant Design
												Engines H/A
												Engines L/A
												Accessories Development
												Accessories
												Starting
												Propellers
												Installations
												Fuels and Lubricants
												Tests and Performance

COMMENT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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Date- 2/6/59

Signature-

*Carl L. Spicer*

File No.

*L 11 - 4 (2)*

Initial	Date
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(1281)

*hu*

*PSF*

*b. F.*  
*Navy*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

June 23, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUDGET: *x79*

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.

*x18*

*Spicer*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

18 June 1943.

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,

*Grant Tinker*

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (8/27/58)

Date- 2/6/59

Signature- *Carl L. Spicer*

The President,  
The White House.

*Memo. in  
Miss Turner's file*

Miller  
noted  
EB

PSF

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*L.F.*

July 2, 1943. *Navy*

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,

*W.T. Brown*  
WILSON BROWN.  
x50-B

x11-A  
x357-B



THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
WASHINGTON

30 June 1943

7

~~Confidential~~

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

x18

Signed 7-3-43  
Rite to Navy 7-5-43

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/6/59

Signature- Carl E. Spicer

CONFIDENTIAL

7

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

16 June 1943

(S/PIS/EF12)

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 Molyneux, 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

J.F.C.  
OIC  
J.D.C.

6-22-43

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/6/59

Signature- Carl S. Spicer

Copy for White House Files

Orig. ret'd to Sec. Navy 6-27-43

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
WASHINGTON

(SC)P15/EF12  
Serial 020500A

June 14, 1943.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

THIRD ENDORSEMENT on  
VCNO Conf. ltr. Op-16-F  
P15/EF12 Ser. 01408616,  
dated May 31, 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

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/6/59

Signature- Carl L. Spicer

ADDRESS REPLY TO  
THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
AND REFER TO INITIALS  
AND No.  
QB4-FNK

NAVY DEPARTMENT  
WASHINGTON

10 June, 1943.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SECOND ENDORSEMENT  
to VCNO conf. ltr. Op-16-F  
P15/EF12 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 Lindsey 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 L. Spicer*

Copy to:  
Bd. of Dec. & Medals.



Pers328-FNK

June 2, 1943.

**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.

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DD FORM 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/6/59

Signature- Carl S. Spicer

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Op-16-F  
P15/EP12  
Serial 01408616  
CONFIDENTIAL

NAVY DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
WASHINGTON

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 42813 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

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

Date- 2/6/59

Signature-3

Carl L. Spicer

Op-16-FL  
P15/EP12  
Serial 1984116

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.

Op-16-FL  
P15/EF 12  
Serial 1984116.

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

-----

(d) 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 Bree.



17-01-70  
ST 12/15/1  
JL 12/15/1  
12-15-70

CONFIDENTIAL

ISSUED BY THE INTELLIGENCE DIVISION  
OFFICE OF CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
NAVY DEPARTMENT

CONFIDENTIAL

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

Serial 23-43 Monograph Index Guide No. 1000

From U. S. Naval Observer at Belem, Para, Brazil Date March 6, 1943

Reference U. S. Naval Attache Rio Conf. Serial 421661 of July 31, 1942.

Source Official Evaluation A-1

Subject BRAZIL WEEKLY NEWS LETTER PARA AVIATION

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER NO. 3 - PART II

WEEK ENDING MARCH 6, 1943

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. Alusnob's Grumman 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 PBV-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 PBV-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 Molyneux a very good friend of Alusnob 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. Molyneux 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 PBV-5A's .

Weekly News Letter No. 3 - Part II

Week Ending March 6, 1943

Continued

O. N. I. (Two advance copies Alusna Rio; one to Comsolant).

<u>N.O. 's</u>	A-3-e	Op-17	AT 1
Bahia	Op-16-a	Op-40	LADB
Maceio	Mis	Op-30	ANPB
Fortaleza	Bulf&D	Op-39	
Santos	BuAero	State	
R.G. do sul	ASNA	BuPers	
Natal	Cominch F-11	CAB	
Florianopolis			
Recife			
Victoria			

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 PBV-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 (PBV-5's).

*C. F.*  
*Navy*

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,

*W. T. Brown*  
WILSON BROWN.

*x 50-13*

*AK*  
*W. T. Brown*  
*7-2-43*

7

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.

X

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*

+18  
Franklin D. Roosevelt Library  
**DECLASSIFIED**  
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature- *Carl S. Spicer*

x357-B  
x11  
x11-A

*Certificate signed 7-3-43  
Ret'd to Navy 7-5-43*



QB4-HBY

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

26 June 1943

FOURTH ENDORSEMENT to  
ComFourth Flt. Conf.  
ltr. P15 Serial 0487  
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 recommended 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 L. Spicer*

Copy to:  
Bd of Dec & Medals  
Copy-vbs

COMINCH FILE

FF1/P15(28)(D)

UNITED STATES FLEET

HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF  
NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D.C.

Serial: 02058

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

22 June 1943

THIRD ENDORSEMENT to  
ComFourth Flt. Conf.  
ltr. P15 Serial 0487  
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.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature- *Carl F. Spicer*

Copy-vbs

(SC)P14-2/EN3-10  
Op-16-A-5  
P15/OQ/EF12  
Serial 01403916

6 01344

Navy Department  
Washington, D. C.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SECOND ENDORSEMENT

on ComFourth Flt.  
Conf. ltr., P15 Serial  
0487 of 2 June, 1943.

June 19, 1943.

From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.  
To: The Secretary of the Navy.  
(Board of Decorations and Medals).  
Via: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.  
Subject: Recommendation for Award for Rear Admiral Alfredo  
Carolos Soars 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

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature-

*Carl L. Spicer*

Copy-vbs

CinClant File  
Pl5/(01687)

UNITED STATES ATLANTIC FLEET

Care F.P.O. New York, N.Y.

June 11, 1943.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FIRST ENDORSEMENT to  
ComFourthFlt Conf.  
ltr 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 recommen-  
dation, inasmuch as other officers of foreign navies are now  
operating with U.S. Naval Forces, or have operated under U.S.  
Naval Forces.

R. E. INGERSOLL

Copy to:  
ComFourthFleet

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DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/9/59

Copy--at

6 01344

Signature-

*Carl L. Spicer*

P15  
0487

UNITED STATES ATLANTIC FLEET  
HEADQUARTERS OF  
THE COMMANDER FOURTH FLEET  
C/O FLEET POST OFFICE, NEW YORK, N. Y.

2 June, 1943.

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, 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. FINORAM, D. Roosevelt Library

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature- Carl T. Spicer

Copy--at

6 01344



*B. F.*  
*Navy*

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,

*W. V. Brown*  
WILSON BROWN.

*x 50-B*

*UK*  
*ZWP*  
*7-3-43*

7

~~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. MacKensie, 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.

*(S/James Forrestal*

*x18*

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/50)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature- *Carl L. Spicer*

*x48-10*  
*x357-B*

WHITE HOUSE FILE COPY

*certificate signed 7-3-43*  
*Ret'd to Navy 7-5-43*

Form 328-HBY

**CONFIDENTIAL**

P15(B)

Vish Endorsement to ComAsphibForSoPac conf.

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

From: The Chief of Naval Personnel.

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.

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/88)

Date- 1/9/59

Signature-

*Carl L. Spicer*

Copy to:  
Bd of Dec & Medals  
✓ Secy Files

CONFIDENTIAL

QB4-OHA

Conf

Fourth Endorsement  
to ComAmphibForSoPac conf. ltr.  
FE25/Pl5, Serial 022, dated  
Jan. 14, 1943.

APR 5 1943

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

To: The Secretary of the Navy.

- (1) The Chief of Naval Personnel.
- (2)

Subject: Award of Distinguished Service Medal to Lieutenant Commander  
W. 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 supervision 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- 2/9/59

Signature- Carl L. Spicer

Copy to:  
Bd of Dec & Medals

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Cominch File

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  
ComAmphibForSoPac 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.

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

Date: 2/9/59

Signature: Carl L. Spier

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 Nations 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.

File No.  
FR25/P15

AMPHIBIOUS FORCE  
SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE  
Office of the Commander

Serial 022

05/Dpz

U.S.S. ARGONNE, Flagship,  
14 JAN 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL:~~

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- 2/9/59

Signature- Carl L. Spicer

Copy to:  
Comsowespac for delivery  
to Australian Naval Board.

Copied HEY  
6 26 1943

GOMSOPAC FILE

P15/(02) SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE  
OF THE UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET  
Serial 097 HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

JAN 21 1943

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

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

Date- 2/9/59

Signature- *Carl L. Spicer*

Copied HBV  
6 26 1943

Cincpac File No.  
Pac-07-wlw  
P15/SOL

UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET  
FLAGSHIP OF THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF

Serial 0219

JAN 29 1943

2nd Endorsement on  
ComAmphibForSoPac Conf.  
Ltr. FE25/P15, Serial  
022, dated 1/14/43.

CONFIDENTIAL

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

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature-

*Carl L. Spicer*

Copy to:  
Comsopac  
Comamphibforsopac

Copied HBY  
6 26 1943

PSF

COPY

*L. F.*  
*Navy*

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
WASHINGTON

7

8 July 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(SC)P16-1/KK

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

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

x18-E  
x18-R

x18

Date- 2/9/59

Signature- *Core J. Spicer*

J F

OK

FDR

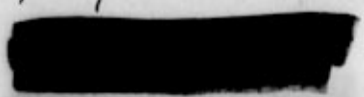
July 10, 1943.

*Orig ret'd to  
Hon James Forrestal 7-10-43*



7

(Sc) P15/EF13-45



THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
WASHINGTON

12 July 1943

*C. F.*  
*Navy*

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*

Frank Knox

x18

x48-18  
x357-B

*Both certificates signed and  
ret. to navy 7-13-43*

Roosevelt Library

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000 DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/68)

Date- JAN 28 1972

Signature- *RHP*

BY  
1943

NAVY DEPARTMENT  
WASHINGTON

QB4-DAS

6 July 1943

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

From: ~~The Secretary of the Navy, Department of the Navy, Board of Awards~~  
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 <sup>Decorations and Medals</sup> ~~Awards~~ 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

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT LIBRARY  
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DDO DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/68)

Date- JAN 28 1972

Signature- *RHP*

1943

Opl3-B/hjm

FOURTH ENDORSEMENT

June 14, 1943

Serial No. 063613  
(SC)P15/EFL3-45

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

From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.  
To: The Chief of Naval Personnel.

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

1. Forwarded for appropriate action.

/s/ J. H. Newton  
Acting

Pers328-HEY

22 June 1943

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

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DDO DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/68)

Date- JAN 28 1972

Signature- RHP

From:

(20) 1/12/43  
Serial No. 06  
0173-8/1/43

HEY  
12 1943

COMINCH FILE

UNITED STATES FLEET

Headquarters of the Commander in Chief

FF1/P15(27) NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D.C.

Serial: 01933

[REDACTED]

11 JUN 1943

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.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DDO DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- JAN 28 1972

Signature- RHP

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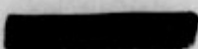
Cincpac File  
Pac-08-wlw  
P15/SOL

UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET  
Flagship of the Commander in Chief

Serial 01210

MAY 20 1943

2nd Endorsement on  
Asst. Intell. Officer  
Staff, ComSoPac Conf.  
Ltr. of March 17, 1943.



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

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DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/68)

Date- JAN 28 1972

Signature- RMP



COMSOPAC FILE  
P15/(02)

Serial: 0747

SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE  
of the United States Pacific Fleet  
Headquarters of the Commander

[REDACTED]

MAY 4 1943

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

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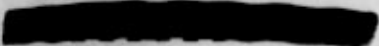
Date- JAN 28 1972

Signature- *RAMP*

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7 12 1943

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 occasions, it is respectfully recommended that Squadron Leader and Widdy and Lieutenant Howe be awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal.

/s/ G. MARKEY,  
Comdr., USNR.

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DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- JAN 28 1972

Signature- RMA

PSF

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

July 13, 1943.

*L. F.*  
*Navy*  
MEMORANDUM FOR:

The President.

Attached 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,

*W. Brown*  
WILSON BROWN.

*x48-10*  
*150-B*

*Ret'd to Navy 7-13-43*

9

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
WASHINGTON

~~RESTRICTED~~

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.

*Frank Knox*

x18

*Both certificates signed and ret'd. to  
Navy 7-13-43*

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/59)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature- *Carl L. Spicer*

x357-B

~~RESTRICTED~~  
DGP-298-rf  
07E16343

SIXTH INDORSEMENT to  
CO, 2nd Rdr Bn, 1st MAC  
conf. ltr. EFC/geg, of  
Dec. 27, 1942.

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

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature- Paul L. Spicer

WHITE HOUSE FILE COPY



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**CONFIDENTIAL**

MAY 28 1943

Fifth Endorsement  
 CO, 2nd Div, 1st MAC conf.  
 ltr. EFC/csg, of Dec. 27, 1942.

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

To : The Secretary of the Navy.

Via : (1) **The Commandant, U. S. Marine Corps.**  
 (2)

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

Reference:

1. Considered at the meeting of the Board **Decorations and Medals** ~~wards~~ **May 6, 1943.**

2. Recommendation:

(a) That Major John Mather, 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 Yousa, Guadalcanal Native Police, be awarded the Legion of Merit, Degree of Legionnaire, 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 9 November to 4 December 1942.

Attention is invited to the fact that Sergeant Major Yousa 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.

*filed 357-12-30-42*

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

A. E. WATSON  
 Senior Member

Copy to:  
 Bd of Dec & Medals (2)  
 U. S. Marine Corps

Date- 2/9/59

H. G. Patrick  
 By direction

Signature- *Carl L. Spicer*

SECRET

COMINCH  
FILE

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

FFL/P15-(27)

Serial: 01301

APR 30 1943

~~RESTRICTED~~  
**RESTRICTED**

FOURTH ENDORSEMENT to  
CO, 2ndEderBn, 1stMAC  
Conf. ltr. EFG/geg,  
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.

RECEIVED: 72 1943  
INDEXED: 1943

APR 30 1943

COPIES TO: 73d S+M  
NO. 100 P15/EF13-45  
NO. 3 of 3  
NO. 3 of 3

E. J. KING.

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

Date- 2/8/59

Signature- Carl L. Spicer

Copy

UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET  
FLAGSHIP OF THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF

Pac-07-wlw  
P15/SOL  
Serial 0816

April 8, 1943

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

**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 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature- *Carl J. Spicer*

Copy

SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE  
of the UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET  
HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER

P15/(02)

Serial: 0525

**RESTRICTED**

SECOND ENDORSEMENT to  
CO, 2ndRdrBn, 1stMAC  
ltr dated 27 December  
1942 to CG, 1stMAC.

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 VOZZA, 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 VOZZA, Guadalcanal Native Police.

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

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature-

*Carl T. Spicer*



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HEADQUARTERS, 2d MARINE RAIDER BATTALION,  
FIRST MARINE AMPHIBIOUS CORPS.

27 December 1942.

~~RESTRICTED~~

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 December 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 constantly 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 judgment 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, he

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature-

Carl L. Spicer



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~~RESTRICTED~~

Subject:

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

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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  
2245  
0009

1st Endorsement 7 January, 1943.  
HEADQUARTERS, FIRST MARINE AMPHIBIOUS CORPS

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.

-----

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date-

2/9/59

Signature-

Carl L. Spicer

PSTF

*C. F.*  
*Navy*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

July 29, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR:

The President.

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

x11-A

Degree of Commander

Vice Admiral Jose 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 Almedia, 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 Belem 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.

DECLASSIFIED  
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (8/27/60)

Very respectfully,  
*W. T. Brown*  
WILSON BROWN.

Date- 2/9/59

Signature- *Carl S. Spacie*

*Original 7/29/43  
Returned to Navy  
7/30/43*

x50-13

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
WASHINGTON

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

28 July 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 Brazilian Officers:

x357-B

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*

x18

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature- *Paul L. Spicer*

C O P Y

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

Washington

26 July, 1943

(SC)P15/EF12  
Serial 023700A  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SECOND ENDORSEMENT on  
VCNO Conf. Ltr. Op-13/wlh,  
Serial 078913 (SC)P15/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

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/9/59

Signature-

*Carl L. Spicer*



6.F.  
Navy

7

(4) Certificates:

Legion of Merit, In the degree of Officer to  
Lieutenant Colonel Adolpho Pinto de Araujo, Correa,  
Brazilian Army

Legion of Merit, In the degree of Commander to  
Vice Admiral Jose 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



Signed original of this memorandum sent to  
the Dir. Budget, 8/4/43  
from THE WHITE HOUSE

PSF  
b. F.  
Navy

Washington

August 3, 1943

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

Officers	200,978
Officer candidates	120,282
Enlisted men	2,092,960
Nurses	6,750

Marine Corps

Officers	29,465
Officer candidates	12,000
Enlisted men	370,500

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

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DD FORM 1300-9 (9/27/50)

Date: 2/3/59

Signature: Carl J. Spitzer

~~SECRET~~

Original of this memorandum sent to the Sec. Budget  
as per the President's notation of 4/43

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DD FORM 1300-9 (8/27/55) III 31 1943

Date: 7/2/59

Signature: *Carl J. Spicer*

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

~~SECRET~~

Director

*OK JAR.*

Miss Tully

The Navy would  
be most appreciative  
if the attached  
could be approved  
before the President  
leaves on July 30<sup>th</sup>

William J. Freeman

July 30, 1943

*B. F.*  
*Navy*

Respectfully referred to the Director *x79*  
of the Bureau of the Budget for recommen-  
dation to the President.

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

elb

Memo for the President, 7/29/43, from William D. Leahy, The Joint Chiefs *x4189*  
of Staff, marked "Secret", encl memo from the Sec. of the Navy to the  
President, 7/29/43, re authorization for Naval Personnel. *x5014*

*x18*

Kind to  
Director of the Budget  
for recommendation



Respectfully referred to the  
Director of the Bureau of  
the Budget for Recommendation  
to the Pres.

J.M.W.

1364)  
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Y

*Original of this memorandum sent to the Dir, Budget 8/4/43*

THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF  
WASHINGTON

29 July 1943.

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.

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DDO DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/3/59

Signature- Carl S. Spier

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*Original of this memorandum sent to the Dir. Budget, 8/4/43*

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
WASHINGTON

SECRET

29 JUL 1943

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 over-all 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:

NAVY

				<u>Increase</u>
Officers:	Increased from	151,975	to 200,978	49,003
Officer Candidates:	Increased from	41,000	to 120,282	79,282
Enlisted:	Increased from	2,000,000	to 2,092,960	92,960
Nurses:	Increased from	6,750	to 6,750	None
Aggregate:	Increased from	2,199,725	to 2,420,970	221,245

MARINE CORPS

				<u>Increase</u>
Officers:	Increased from	25,715	to 29,465	3,750
Officer Candidates:	Increased from	2,000	to 12,000	10,000
Enlisted:	Increased from	334,500	to 370,500	36,000
Aggregate:	Increased from	362,215	to 411,965	49,750

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library <sup>3</sup> Your approval is requested now for planning and budgetary purposes.

DECLASSIFIED

Respectfully,

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

(Signed) FRANK KNOX

Date- 2/3/59

SECRET

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

copy

C.F.  
Navy

*(Handwritten signature: C.F. Navy)*

August 9, 1943

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

x18-71  
x5153

x50-13

OK  
F. D. R.  
August 10, 1943.

prep. July 29

Pers-320-P

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

4 - AUG 1943

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,

JAMES FORRESTAL

Acting

X18

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CONFIDENTIAL

DOD Dir. 5200.9 (9/27/50)

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

Carl S. Spicer

OIC  
JDC  
8-10-43

FE



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Pers-320-P

~~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. Conf. Memo from SecNav to the President  
with attachment of basic correspondence.

x18-Q

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DDU Div. 5200.9 (9/27/50)

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

Carl L. Spicer

COPY

PST  
L. F.  
Navy

7

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

August, 1943.

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:

x357-7B

x159-A

Commander - - - Comodoro Julio Diez 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.

x535-A

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.

x48-7

Squadron Leader Henry Campbell Walker, Foyal 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,

s/ W. Brown

WILSON BROWN

x50-7B

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

Certificates signed and returned to Navy  
August 10, 1943.

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
WASHINGTON

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

4 August 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*

x18

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/88)

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

*Carl L. Spicer*

Address Reply to  
The Secretary of the Navy  
and refer to initials  
and No.  
QB4-HBY

NAVY DEPARTMENT  
WASHINGTON

4 August 1943

**CONFIDENTIAL**

CONFIDENTIAL

End--2 to  
VCNO conf. ltr. (SC)P15/EF12,  
Op-16-A-5, P15/QQ/EF12,  
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:

CSI Forestal  
The Secretary of the Navy

WHITE HOUSE FILE COPY

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DDI DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/88)

CC: Bd of Dec & Medals

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

*Carl F. Spicer*

COPY  
khv

COMINCH FILE  
FF1/P15(55)  
Serial: 02606

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

2 Aug 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

**CONFIDENTIAL**

FIRST ENDORSEMENT to  
VCNO 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  
ERN \_\_\_\_\_  
see (SC) P15/EF12

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DDO DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

Carl F. Spicer

COPY  
khv



26177: C  
NAV BUREAU  
COMMENCE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Reg No. \_\_\_\_\_  
R.S. No. 7 02098

NAVY DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
WASHINGTON

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

28 Jul 1943

(SC)P15/EF12  
Op-16-A-5  
P15/QQ/EF12  
Serial 01926516

~~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 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 Munroe for presentation on the next appropriate occasion.

/s/ F. J. Herne

F. J. HERNE.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library  
DEPOSITED  
DOD Hist. 5200.9 (9/27/00)

COPY  
khv

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

*Carl S. Spicer*

CONFIDENTIAL

7 02098

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CUBA

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.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

BOD DM. 5200.9 (9/27/88)

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

Carl T. Spicer

ENCLOSURE (A) TO SERIAL 01926516.

COPY

khv

CONFIDENTIAL

NAVY DEPARTMENT

Washington

QB4-HEV  
4 August 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

**CONFIDENTIAL**

End-2 To  
VCNO conf. Ltr. (SC) P15/EF12,  
Op-16-A-5, P15/QQ/EF12,  
serial 01926616 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 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:

(s) Forrestal  
The Secretary of the Navy

WHITE HOUSE FILE COPY

CC: Bd of Dec and Medals

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date: 2/3/59

Signature-

Paul S. Spicer

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

FF1/P15/(54)

Serial: 02607

-2 August 1943

CONFIDENTIAL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FIRST ENDORSEMENT to  
VCNO conf. ltr. (SC)P15/EF12,  
Op-16-A-5, P15/QQ/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

DDO DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- ✓/3/59

Signature-

*Carl L. 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~~

~~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

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

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

Carl S. Spicer



CONFIDENTIAL

**CONFIDENTIAL**

VENEZUELA

Name: Antonio Picardi.

Official mail address: Caracas, Venezuela.

Rank and position: Commander, Director of the Navy.

Decoration: Legion of Merit - OFFICER.

Citation: 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.

ENCLOSURE (A) TO SERIAL 01926616.

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

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

Carl L. Spicer

PSF

B.F.

*Navy*

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
WASHINGTON

12 August 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 Uruguayan Officers:

x357-73

COMMANDER

Rear Admiral Gustavo A. Schroder, Uruguayan Navy.

OFFICER

x487-A

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.

*Frank Knox*

x18

*certificates signed 8-23-43  
rec'd in Secy Navy - 8-24-43*

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

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-  
*Carl S. Spicer*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

August 19, 1943.

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,

  
WILSON BROWN.

x50-B

CONFIDENTIAL

FF1/P15(53)

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

Serial: 02704

9 August 1943

CONFIDENTIAL

FIRST ENDORSEMENT to  
VCNO conf. ltr. (SC) P15/EF72  
Op-16-A-5, P15/OQ/EF72, serial  
02026816 dated 6 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.

/s/  
E. J. KING

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library  
DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

Carl L. Spicer

REF ID: A66001

NAVY (23)

NAVY DEPARTMENT

QB4-HBY

11 August 1943

Washington

CONFIDENTIAL

End--2 to  
VCNO conf. ltr. (SC) P15/EF72  
Op-16-A-5, P15/OQ/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:

1st Frank Crox  
The Secretary of the Navy

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

Carl L. Spicer

CC: Bd. of Dec & Medals



ALLEN CONT.  
EM-5 40

CONFIDENTIAL

NAVY DEPARTMENT  
Office of the Chief of Naval Operations  
Washington

(SC)P15/EF72  
OP-16-A-5  
P15/OO/EF72  
Serial 02026816

6 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 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.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED  
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/56)

/s/  
F. J. HORNE

Date- 7/3/59

Signature-

Carl S. Spicer

1110  
1572/007/ELLS  
05-70-1-2  
(20) 1572/ELLS

CONFIDENTIAL

8 0488

URUGUAY

Name: Gustavo A. Schroder.

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

Rank and Position: Contralmirante (Rear 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.

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

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

*Carl L. Spicer*

ENCLOSURE (A) TO SERIAL 02026816.

CONFIDENTIAL

8 0488

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.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date: 2/3/59

Signature:

*Carl S. Spicer*

ENCLOSURE (B) TO SERIAL 02026816.

CONFIDENTIAL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

8 0488

URUGUAY

Name: Juan M. 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.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DDO DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

*Carl L. Spicer*

ENCLOSURE (C) TO SERIAL 02026816.

CONFIDENTIAL

(1637)

Am

PSP

G. F. Navy

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
WASHINGTON

August 17, 1943.

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, 18

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

Carl S. Spicer

"F.K.  
OK.  
F.D.R."

Carbon initialed and returned by Secy Navy August 21, 1943

CONFIDENTIAL



Miller

PST

C. F.  
Navy

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
WASHINGTON

(SC) P15/KK.

~~SECRET~~

25 AUG 1943

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. x

*Frank Knox*  
Frank Knox  
x18

x18-E  
x357

Inclosure: 1.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

*Carl L. Spear*

Signature-

*Carl L. Spear*

09601  
DGP-298-wlb

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

105-500-419  
0807

QB4-HBY  
27 July 1943

~~SECRET~~

P15(A)

End--S to  
CO, MAG-12, secret ltr.  
KV12/P15-1/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 E. Swett, U.S.N.C.R.

1. The Board recommends that First Lieutenant James E. 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

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

Date: 7/3/59

Signature:

Carl L. Spicer

Special meeting  
23 July 1943

CC: Bd of Dec & Medals  
Comdt, USMC

hms

PSE

*B. F.*  
*Navy*

Op-05-1111  
(SC)AL-3/CVL  
**SECRET**  
- - - - -

2 SEP 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 utilize the basis 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.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/88)

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

*Carl S. Spicer*

*x18-Misc. Naval Bldg. Folder*

*x249 Official*

*x50-13*

Frank Knox

x18

*original initialed  
and handed to  
Mr. Wm. P. Rigdon  
9/16/43  
9/7/43*

PSF

*E. J. Mary*

*Orig. NTA to Adm. Brown*

September 4, 1943.

*FILE  
JPR  
9-4-43*

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 Mexican officers:

Decree of Commander -

Major General Heriberto Jara, Secretary of the Navy, for loyal cooperation and action as Secretary of the National Marine in the cause of the democracies and the defense of the American Republics.

Rear Admiral Othon P. Blanco, Under Secretary of the Navy, 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.

General de Division Alejandro Mänge, Commander of the Mexican Military Region of the Gulf, 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.

Comodoro David Coello Ochoa, Commandant of the First Naval Zone at Vera Cruz, 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 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,

X 146-A  
X 357-78

WILSON BROWN. X 52-78



THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
WASHINGTON

2 September 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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

x { 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.

Frank Knox

x18

Certificates signed 9-4-43

Ret'd to <sup>Sec.</sup> Navy 9-4-43

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

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

Carl L. Spicer

REF ID: A66558

QB4-MAC-hby  
31 August 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

End--2 to  
VCNO Conf Ltr  
(SC)P15/EF12 Op-16-A-5  
P15/OQ/EF12 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 Mange, Commander of the Mexican  
Military Region of the Gulf  
Comodore 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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Date- 2/3/59

Signature

Carl L. Spear

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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(OQ/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 L. Spicer

*Paul L. Spicer*

In reply refer Initials  
and No.

NAVY DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
WASHINGTON

(SC)P15/EF12  
Op-16-A-5  
P15/OQ/EF12  
Serial 01926916

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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DOB DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date--

2/3/59

Signature--

Carl L. Spicer

CONFIDENTIAL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~MEXICO

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.

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Date- 2/3/59

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*Paul L. Spicer*

ENCLOSURE (A) TO SERIAL 01926916.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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.

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Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

*Carl S. Spicer*

ENCLOSURE (B) TO SERIAL 01926916.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEXICO

Name: Alejandro Mange

Official mail address: Region Militar del Golfo, y 26 Zona Militar, Veracruz, Vera Cruz.

Rank and position: General de Division - Commandante Region Militar del Golfo, y Zona Militar.

Decoration: Legion of Merit - COMMANDER.

Citation: 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.

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ENCLOSURE (C) TO SERIAL 01926916.

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

*Carl S. Speer*

(S) 015/0044

AIRMAIL  
MEXICO

11 August 1949

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 of Mendez Uraga and Malinar is not sufficient to properly consider them 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 Jara, Blasco and Coello. Perhaps it would be better to let the Army make the award. 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 send Vice Admiral Jimenez with the awards to Jara, Blasco and Coello when he visits Mexico around the middle of September.

kindest regards and best wishes,

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

Carl L. Spicer

ENCLOSURE (D) TO SERIAL 01926916.

Mr. John H. D. Moore  
Comdr., Gulf Sea Frontier  
Miami, Fla.

CONFIDENTIAL

(SC)P15/KF44

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,

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

W. O. Spears

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

Carl L. Spicer

Rr. Adm. W. R. Munroe  
Comdr., Gulf Sea Frontier  
Miami, Fla.

3-11 (Mexico City)  
EF44/EN  
P15  
Serial L-313-43

JPC/mwm

CONFIDENTIAL

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 Attache, 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 Attache, Washington, D. C.  
Comodoro A. Angel Corzo Castillo - Official Mayor of the Navy Department.  
Comodoro Roberto Gomez Maqueo - Intendente General, Defensa Nacional, (Formerly Chief of Staff, Region of the Pacific).



EN3-11(Mexico City)  
EF44/EN  
P15  
Serial L-313-43

JPC/mmm

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Subj: Award of Legion of Merit to Mexican Naval Officers.  
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Capitan de Fragata Manuel Zermeno Araico - Liaison Officer on Staff  
of ComWestSeaFron.

Capitan de Fragata Alejandro Lecon Lopez - Military Department of  
Communications, (Formerly Staff of Com-  
mander, 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 rec-  
ommended 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.

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. Riefkohl, U.S.N.

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Date- 2/2/59

Signature-

Carl L. Spicer

EM3-11 (Mexico)  
 EW44/EM  
 P15  
 Serial No. L-193-43

~~R R S I B I C I R R~~

May 18, 1943

From: U.S. Naval Attache, Mexico City, Mexico  
 To: The Director of Naval Intelligence

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

References:

- (a) M.A. Mexico Ltr. Serial No. 395 of 22 May, 1942.
- (b) M.A. Mexico Dtr. Serial No. 161 of 16 November, 1942.
- (c) Aluma Mexico Airgram of 10 December, 1942.

1. References include this office's proposals to date of Mexican officers for the award of the U.S. Order of Merit.

2. Reference (b) Proposed General Roberto Pierra, Chief of Military Aviation. Since that time General Pierra has been relieved, is at present without assignment and is apparently not in the good graces of the incumbent military administration. It is therefore recommended that his name be stricken and that General Gustavo Salinas, present Air Force Chief be substituted in accordance with the following data:

- (1) (a) Gustavo Salinas Gamino
- (b) Jefe de Avlacion Militar Mexicana, Mexico, D. F.
- (c) General de Brigada (Brigadier General)
- (d) Legion of Merit - Commander
- (e) For his loyal cooperation and distinguished service as the Commander of the Mexican Military Aviation Forces and for his support in the cause of the democracies and the defense of the American Republics.
- (r) Confidential Remarks. General Salinas, although he has been Chief of the Air Force for only a comparatively short time, has cooperated fully with this office and is believed to be pro-United States.

3. In addition to those names previously proposed it is desired, if additional awards are to be made, to recommend the following:

- (1) (a) Mario Rodriguez Malpica
- (b) Director General de la Armada (Director General of the Fleet) Mexico, D.F.
- (c) Comodoro (Commodore)
- (d) Legion of Merit - Commander

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RM3-11 (Merleo)  
EP44/DM  
P15  
Serial No. L-193-43

R-E-S-T-R-I-C-T-E-D

May 18, 1943

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

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(e) For his loyal cooperation and assistance both while Commandant of the 3rd Naval Zone, headquarters at Isla Margarita, Lower California, and since his assumption of duties as Director General of the Fleet, in the cause of the democracies and the defense of the American Republics.

(f) Confidential Remarks. Commodore Malpica has in the past been reported as very anti-United States. It is believed that these reports spring from the fact that he is a cold natured individual and is reported to have been a midshipman at Veracruz at the time of the U.S. landing in 1914. In spite of these reports he has been most friendly and cooperative with this office and it is believed that the adverse reports are greatly exaggerated.

(2) (a) Angel A. Corso Castillo  
(b) Oficial Mayor de la Secretaria de la Marina (Executive Officer, Ministry of the Navy) Mexico, D. F.

(c) Comodoro (Comodore)  
(d) Legion of Merit - Commander  
(e) For his loyal cooperation and support as Executive Officer of the Ministry of the Navy in the cause of the democracies and the defense of the American Republics.

(f) Confidential Remarks. Comodoro Corso is understood to have been Director of the Navy at one time before that organization became a full ministry. He is capable and intelligent, is cooperative and is believed to be a friend of the United States.

(3) (a) Ignacio Garcia Jurado  
(b) Mexican Naval Attache, Washington, D. C.  
(c) Comodoro, Cuervo de Maguinitas Navales (Comodore, Naval Engineers).

EN3-11(Mexico)  
EF44/EM  
P15  
Serial No. L-193-43

May 18, 1943

~~RESTRICTED~~

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

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- (d) Legion of Merit - Commander
- (e) For his loyal cooperation and support as Mexican Naval Attache 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 Attache 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 Defensa 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.

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J. P. Conover, Jr.

Date- 2/3/59

Signature- Carl L. Spicer -3-



COPY

AMERICAN EMBASSY  
OFFICE OF THE NAVAL ATTACHE  
MEXICO CITY, MEXICO

May 22, 1942.

EN3-11(Mexico)  
Serial No. 395-42-L  
RESTRICTED  
AIR MAIL

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.



C O P Y

-2-

DNI Serial No. 395-42-L

May 22, 1942

RESTRICTED

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, Azueta 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.

C O P Y

-3-

DNI Serial No. 395-42-L.

May 22, 1942

RESTRICTED

- (3)(a) Carlos R. Berzunza  
(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, Comodoro 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,

2128  
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DNI Serial No. 395-42-L

-4-

May 22, 1943

RESTRICTED

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.

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Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

Carl L. Spurr

1738

PSE

*(L. F. Navy)*

*Original initialed as indicated 9/9/43  
And returned to Navy 9/10/43*

(SC)A1-3  
CONFIDENTIAL

-9 SEP 1943

**CONFIDENTIAL**

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.

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DDP DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

*1/31 Frank Knox  
x18*

Date- *2/3/59*

Signature- *Paul J. Spicer*

*x4675 Quebec Conference  
x18-Misc. Naval Bldg. Folder.*

*Original initialed Sept. 9th and returned to Navy 9/10/43*

*OK  
F.D.R.*

Captain Patrick (Recorder, Navy Dept. Board of Decorations and Medals) advises that Rear Admiral W. O. Spears, USN., is leaving for South America early next week and it is desired to send the attached awards via Admiral Spears, if approved by the President.

PSF

C. F.  
Navy

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

September 21, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR:

The President.

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:

x 357-78

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 Saldias, Peruvian Navy, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in position of high responsibility (Escuela 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, Ecuadoran 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, Ecuadoran 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. Brown  
WILSON BROWN.  
x 50-B



THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

WASHINGTON

17 September 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 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~~

QB4-HBY  
16 September 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

End--2 to  
VCNO conf. ltr.  
(SC) P15/EF12 Op-16-A-5  
P15/OQ/EF12, 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 Mariane 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

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APPROVED:

151 Forestal  
The Secretary of the Navy

CC: Bd of Dec & Medals

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DOB DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

*Carl L. Spicer*

COMINCH FILE

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

FFL/P15 (1)

Serial: 03142

11 September 1943

CONFIDENTIAL

**CONFIDENTIAL**

FIRST ENDORSEMENT to

Vice CNO conf. ltr.

(SC) P15/EF12 Op-16-A-5

P15/OQ/EF12, Serial 01927016,

dated 9 September, 1943.

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.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DDO DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

*Carl L. Spicer*

NAVY DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
WASHINGTON

(SC)P15/EF12  
Op-16-A-5  
P15/OQ/EF12  
Serial 01927016

9 September 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 Peruvian Officers.

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

Encl: (A) Information re Rear Admiral Federice 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 recommendations 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 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. HORNE

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

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

*Carl L. Spicer*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~PERU

Name: Mariano H. Melgar C.

Official mail address: Lima, Peru.

Rank and position: Capitan de Navie (Captain). Commander-in-Chief, Peruvian Fleet.

Deceration: 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**

PERU

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.

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DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

Carl L. Spicer

**CONFIDENTIAL**PERU

Name: Federico Diaz Dulante.

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

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

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.

ENCLOSURE (A) TO SERIAL 01927016.

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

Date- 2/3/59

Signature:

*Carl S. Spicer*

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

WASHINGTON

17 September 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 Chilean Officers:

COMMANDER

x429-A

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

OFFICER

x

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*

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

*Carl L. Spencer*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

NAVY DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON

QB4-HBY

16 September 1943

End--2 to  
VCNO conf. ltr.  
(SC)Pl5/EF12 Op-16-A-5  
Pl5/OQ/EF12, Serial 02027016  
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 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 Jullian, 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:

(S) J. J. J. J.  
The Secretary of the Navy

CC: Bd of Dec & Medals

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

Carl L. Spicer

Cominch File

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

FF1/P15(1)

Serial: 03143

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
CONFIDENTIAL

FIRST ENDORSEMENT to  
Vice CNO conf. ltr.  
(SC)P15/EF12 Op-16-A-5  
P15/OQ/EF12, 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.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/88)

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

Carl S. Spicer



NAVY DEPARTMENT  
Office of the Chief of Naval Operations

WASHINGTON

(SC)P15/EF12  
Op-16-A-5  
P15/OQ/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 Jullian.

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.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

F. J. HORNE

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

Carl S. Spicer

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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. Spicer

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CHILE

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

ENCLOSURE (B) TO SERIAL 02027016.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

Carl S. Spicer

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CHILE

Name:

Carlos Cortes Jullian.

Official mail address:

Santiago, Chile.

Rank and position:

Captain, Senior Naval Member  
General Staff, (former Naval  
Attache in Washington).

Decoration:

Legion of Merit - OFFICER.

Citation:

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 contri-  
bution to strengthen the ties of friend-  
ship between his country and the United  
States of America.

ENCLOSURE (C) TO SERIAL 02027016.

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

Date-

2/3/59

Signature-

Carl S. Spicer

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
WASHINGTON

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

17 September 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 indicated to the following Colombian Officer:

OFFICER

x313-A

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.

*James Forrestal*

*certificate signed 9-22-43*

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/88)

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

*Carl S. Spicer*



NAVY DEPARTMENT  
WASHINGTON

QB4-HBY  
16 September 1943

**CONFIDENTIAL**

End—2 to  
VCNO conf. ltr. (SC) P15/EF12,  
Op-16-A-5, P15/OQ/EF12, 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:

*W. J. Forestal*  
The Secretary of the Navy

CC: Bd of Dec & Medals.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/59)

Date- 2/3/59

Signature

*Carl S. Spicer*

COMINCH FILE

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

FF1/P15(1)

11 Sep 1943

Serial: 03149

**CONFIDENTIAL**

CONFIDENTIAL

FIRST ENDORSEMENT to  
VCNO conf. ltr. (SC)P15/EF12,  
Op-16-A-5, P15/OQ/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. PURNELL,  
Deputy Chief of Staff.

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

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

*Carl S. Spicer*

In reply refer to Initials  
and No.

NAVY DEPARTMENT  
Office of the Chief of Naval Operations  
WASHINGTON

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

9 SEP 1943

(SC)P15/EF12  
Op-16-A-5  
P15/OQ/EF12  
Serial 01926416

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. Enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith and covers recommendation 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 decoration and necessary papers be forwarded to the Chief of the Naval Mission in Columbia for presentation on the next appropriate occasion.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/50)

Date- 2/3/54

Signature

Carl L. Speer

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

COLOMBIA

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.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

*Carl L. Spicer*

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
WASHINGTON

17 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 Ecuadoran Officers:

COMMANDER

✓ Captain Juan Francisco ANDA y Maldonado, Ecuadoran Navy.

OFFICER ✕

x563-A

Commander Cesar Alejandro MOGOLLON 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*

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

Date- *2/3/59*

Signature-

*Carl L. Spicer*



QE4-HBY  
16 September 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

End--2 to  
VCNO conf. ltr.  
(SC)P15/EF12 Op-16-A-5  
P15/OQ/EF12, Seiral 01927216,  
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 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 MOGOLLO 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:

151 Foreital  
The Secretary of the Navy

CC: Bd of Dec & Medals

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/3/59

Signature

Carl L. Spicer

FF1/P15(1)

Serial: 03144

11 SEP 1943

CONFIDENTIAL

**CONFIDENTIAL**

FIRST ENDORSEMENT to  
Vice CNO conf. ltr.  
(SC)P15/EF12 Op-16-A-5  
P15/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.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

*Carl F. Spicer*

# CONFIDENTIAL

(SC)P15/EF12  
Op-16-A-5  
P15/OQ/EF12  
Serial 01927216

9 SEP 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 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

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date-

2/3/59

Signature-

Carl L. Spicer

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ECUADOR

Name: Juan Francisco ANDA y Maldonado.

Official mail address: Ministerio de Defensa Nacional, Quito,  
Ecuador.

Rank and position: Comandante General de la Marina, Capitan de  
Navio (Captain).

Decoration: Legion of Merit - COMMANDER.

Citation: For complete cooperation with the Office of the  
United States Naval Attache, with the United  
States Naval Mission, and with all representa-  
tives of the United States in matters concern-  
ing hemisphere defense.

ENCLOSURE (A) TO SERIAL 01927216.

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

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

*Carl L. Speier*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ECUADOR

Name: Cesar Alejandro MOGOLLON 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.

ENCLOSURE (B) TO SERIAL 01927216.

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

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

Carl L. Spicer



For Mr. Ingles  
Confidential Files.

==

PSF

*C. F.*  
*Navy*

(SC)AL-3/DE

CONFIDENTIAL

21 SEP 1943

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.

x18-R

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DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/80)

Date- 2/3/59

Signature:

*Carl S. Spicer*

x18-Misc. Naval Bldg. Folder  
x52.6

JAMES FORRESTAL  
Acting

x18

*Approved  
Sept 23  
Franklin D. Roosevelt  
Original returned to Acting  
Secy Navy 9/25/43*

~~SECRET~~  
~~SECRET~~

22 Sep 1943

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.
- 1 quintuple torpedo tube.
- 2 40 MM twin mounts.
- 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.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

-1-

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

*Carl T. Speer*

*x18 Misc. Naval Bldg. Folder*  
*x178*

~~SECRET~~

SECRET/44-1(1)  
SECRET 002033

22 Sep 1943

*C. F.*  
*Navy*

SECRET

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.

*x18-R*

September 27, 1943.

O.K.

F.D.R.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/59)

Date- 2/3/59

Signature-

*Carl L. Spicer*

*x18*  
*x249 official*

SECRET

PSF  
C. F.  
Navy

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

F  
Miller

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

x21-77



THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

WASHINGTON

16 September, 1943

~~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

Att: x18

The President,  
The White House.  
Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/10/59

Signature- Carl S. Spicer

*J. F.*  
*OK - F. J. F.*  
*Carbon uninked and*  
*sent to Henry, 10/1/43*  
*copy note to Hon James*  
*J. Forrestal*

Op-05-23/AIN

(SGLA)-1  
**SECRET**

~~SECRET~~

PSF  
C.F.  
Navy

2 OCT 1949

7

Memorandum for The President

**Subject:** Cancellation of PCs (136') and PCEs (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 (PCE)

The 36 - 136' PCs, just now being started, will be completed as YMSs which have been authorized, but not yet contracted for. No waste of material is involved.

The 40 - 180' PCEs 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 X18

-----

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

**DECLASSIFIED**

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

Date- 2/10/59

Signature-

Carl S. Spicer

J.F.  
OIC  
JDK  
10-5-47

X18-Misc. Naval Bldg Folder

250  
10-2-43

W.D.

Memorandum for the President from the  
Acting Secretary of the Navy, dated 10-2-43,  
subject: Cancellation of PCs (136') and PCEs (180')

*B.F.*  
*Navy*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

October 4, 1943.

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,

*W. Brown*  
WILSON BROWN.

*x50-B*

*x48-7*

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
WASHINGTON

~~SECRET~~

30 September 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

- x357-D
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.D.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  
x18

certificate signed 10-5-43  
ret'd to navy 10-6-43

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

Date- 2/10/59

Signature- Carl L. Spicer



~~SECRET~~

NAVY DEPARTMENT  
WASHINGTON

QB4-DAS  
18 September 1943

FOURTH Endorsement  
to ComAirSoPac secret ltr  
P15/nap 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.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/10/59

Signature- *Carl L. Spicer*

COMINCH FILE

**SECRET**

FF1/P15

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

Serial: 001866

3 Sept. 1943

THIRD ENDORSEMENT to  
ComAirSoPac secret Itr.  
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 L. Spicer*

Cincpac File

Pac-09-wlw  
P15

UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET  
FLAGSHIP OF THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF

Serial: 001052

**SECRET**

25 August 1943

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 (9/27/88)

Date- 2/10/59

Signature- Carl L. Spicer

COMSOPAC FILE  
P15/(05A)

~~SECRET~~

Serial: 001534

SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE  
OF THE UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET  
HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER

FIRST ENDORSEMENT to:  
ComAirSoPac SECRET ltr.  
P15/nap over serial  
00636 dated July 31,  
1943.

17 August 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: 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

UNCLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/10/59

Signature- *Carl L. Spicer*

RECLASSIFIED



UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET  
AIR CRAFT SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE

Pl5/nap.

Serial 00636

31 JUL 1943

~~SECRET~~  
**SECRET**

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."

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date-

2/10/59

Signature-

Carl F. Speer

/s/

AUBREY W. FITCH





4

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

WASHINGTON

**CONFIDENTIAL**

1 October 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 degree indicated to the following Peruvian Officer:

*x357-73*

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.

*James Forrestal*  
*x18*

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

**DECLASSIFIED**

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

Date- *2/10/59*

Signature- *Carl L. Spicer*

*Certificate signed 10-5-43*  
*Ret'd to Navy 10-6-43*

COMINT

COMINCH FILE

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

FF1/P15

Serial: 03397

1 October 1943

**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.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/10/59

Signature-

*Carl L. Spicer*

NAVY DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
WASHINGTON

(SC)P15/EF12  
Op-16-A-5  
P15/OQ/EF12  
Serial 02029716

Oct. 1, 1943

**CONFIDENTIAL**

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) VCNO 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

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

Date- 2/10/59

Signature- *Carl L. Spicer*

NAVY DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
WASHINGTON

Date- 2/10/59

Signature- Paul L. Spears

Op-17-1n

September 30, 1943

**CONFIDENTIAL**

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



COMINCH FILE

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

Ff1/P15

Serial: 03397

1 October 1943

**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.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

**DECLASSIFIED**

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

Date- 2/10/59

Signature-

*Carl L. Spicer*

COMINCH FILE

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

PSF  
b.F.  
Navy

**CONFIDENTIAL**

CONFIDENTIAL

8 October 1943

*file*

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."

9

*E. J. King*

x 18  
x 4675  
x 18-R

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DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/10/59

Signature- *Carl S. Spicer*

CONFIDENTIAL FILE

61 1111

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL

October 6, 1943.

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.

*W. T. Brown*  
Wilson Brown,

Rear Admiral, U.S.N.,  
Naval Aide to the President.

x50-B

*Herewith* *EJK*

W. V. B.

PSF

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
WASHINGTON

C. F.  
Navy

file

OCT 5 1943

~~Confidential~~

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:

	<u>30 Sept. 1943</u>	<u>31 Aug. 1943</u>	<u>Net Gain for Month</u>
Regular Navy	360,869	355,055	5,814
Retired Active	7,550	7,500	50
Fleet Reserve	6,630	6,730	(-) 100
Women's Reserve	30,126	27,018	3,108
Other Reserve	<u>1,385,879</u>	<u>1,303,827</u>	<u>82,052</u>
TOTAL	1,791,054	1,700,130	90,924

2. To date 550,904 men have been inducted into the Navy through Selective Service.

Very respectfully,

James Forrestal

The President  
The White House

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

Date- 2/10/54

Signature- Carl L. Spicer

PSF  
A  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

C. F.

Navy

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

October 13, 1943.

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 Capitao Nelson Simas De Souza, Brazilian Navy.

x357-B  
\* 11-A

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 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. 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,

W. T. Brown  
WILSON BROWN.

x357-B



47

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
WASHINGTON

**CONFIDENTIAL**

9 October 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

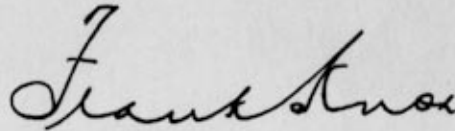
1. There is forwarded, herewith, for your approval a recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals for the award of the Legion of Merit in degree indicated to the following Brazilian Officer:

degree of OFFICER

Capitao 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.



Frank Knox

x 18

*Certificate signed 10-13-43  
Ret'd to Navy 10-13-43*

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

**DECLASSIFIED**

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

Date- 2/11/59

Signature- Carl L. Spear

CONFIDENTIAL

QB4-HBY  
7 October 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
**CONFIDENTIAL**

End--3 to  
ComFourthFIt Conf. ltr.  
P15/0988 of 20 Sep 1943.

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

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

Date- 2/11/59

Signature-

*Carl J. Spicer*

COMINCH FILE

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

FF1/P15(1)

Serial: 03435

4 October 1943

**CONFIDENTIAL**

SECOND ENDORSEMENT to  
ComFourthF1t 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 Commander, 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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DECLASSIFIED  
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/11/59

Signature- Carl L. Spicer

CINCLANT FILE

UNITED STATES ATLANTIC FLEET

PL5/(02878)

CARE F. P. O., NEW YORK, N.Y.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

28 September 1943

FIRST ENDORSEMENT to  
ComFourthFleet conf.  
ltr. PL5/0988 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- 2/11/59

Signature- Carl L. Spicer

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/11/59

Signature- Carl L. Spicer

UNITED STATES ATLANTIC FLEET  
HEADQUARTERS OF

P15/  
0988

THE COMMANDER FOURTH FLEET  
c/o FLEET POST OFFICE, NEW YORK, N. Y.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

20 September 1943

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 uncontrollable conflagration 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 operations. By his display of initiative and cool judgement in the face of grave danger, he was largely responsible for the successful and coordinated combating 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 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. 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."

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

/s/ JONAS H. INGRAM

Date- 2/11/59

Signature- *Core L. Spicer*



Op-3-J-egs

10-13-43

PSF

Serial 268023

~~RESTRICTED~~

*L. F. Navy*

4

The President,  
The White House.

19 OCT 1943

My dear Mr. President:

The U.S.S. CREAL (PY-15), previously in use at the Fleet Sound School, Key West, was purchased from Clipper Line, Inc., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It was then an ex yacht converted into a passenger vessel, has twin diesel engines, overall length 214.5', beam 27' draft 10' 5"; 726 gross tons, was built in 1913 at Wilmington, Delaware, and acquired 25 November 1940 at a cost of \$100,000.00. She was stricken from the Navy Register 11 October 1943.

The Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance requests that authority be granted to use the hulk of this vessel in connection with torpedo tests which may involve destruction.

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 Naval Operations has certified that she is not essential to the defense of the United States, as required by Section 14(a) of the Act approved 28 June 1940, (Public 671-76th Congress).

The Act of June 24, 1941, 55 Stat. 26034 U.S.C. Sup 1, sec. 493(b) 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 interests of the Government would be best served thereby.

It is recommended that authority be granted to use the PY-15 in connection with torpedo tests at the Naval Torpedo Station, Newport, Rhode Island, as requested by the Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance.

Sincerely yours,

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

Frank Knox

DECLASSIFIED

x/8

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

The White House  
Approved:

x/18-2  
x/18-70

Date- 2/10/59

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

Signature-

*Carl F. Spicer*

OCT 20 1943

~~SECRET~~

*Return to Sec. Navy 10-20-43*

*B.F. Navy*

7

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
WASHINGTON

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

19 October 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 degree indicated to the following Chilean Officer:

*x357-B*

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.

*Frank Knox*  
x18

*x429-A*

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

Date- *2/11/59*

Signature- *Carl F. Spicer*

CONFIDENTIAL

QB4-HBY  
18 October 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

End--1 to Cominch  
conf. ltr. FFI/P15  
Serial 03561  
of 15 Oct. 1943.

From: The Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals.  
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

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

**DECLASSIFIED**

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

Date- 2/11/59

Signature-

*Carl L. Spicer*

Winch File  
FL/P15  
Serial 03561

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

15 Oct 1943

CONFIDENTIAL

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.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/11/59

Signature-

*Carl F. Spicer*



SECRET OFFICE  
J/112  
MUCH EAT

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

October 20, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR:

The President.

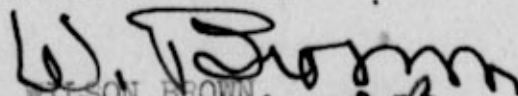
There is forwarded herewith for your action a recommendation of the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals for the award of the Legion of Merit (degree of Commander) to Vice Admiral Vincente Merino, Chilean Navy.

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. X50-B

*Certificate signed 10-20-43  
Retd. to Navy 10-20-43*



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

October 20, 1943.

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. T. Brown*  
WILSON BROWN. <sup>+50-13</sup>

*Certificate signed 10-20-43*  
*Rate to Navy 10-20-42*

~~SECRET~~

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
WASHINGTON

*C. F.*  
*Navy*  
18 October 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 indicated to the following Australian Officer:

*x357-7B*

degree of OFFICER

Commissioned Warrant Officer M. Ines Harper, R.A.N.R.  
*x*

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.

*Frank Knox*  
*x18*

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- *2/11/59*

Signature-

*Carl L. Spicer*

*x48-10*

**SECRET**  
SECRET

QB4-DAS  
24 August 1943

Fourth Endorsement  
to ComPhibSoPac SECRET ltr.  
FE25/P15 over Serial 0025b of  
11 July 1943.

From: Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals.  
~~xxxxxx The Secretary of the Navy Department Board of Awards.~~  
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:

- Decorations and Medals  
1. Considered at the meeting of the Board of Awards held ~~xxxxxx~~ 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

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

Date- 2/11/59

Signature-

*Carl T. Spicer*

SECRET

File

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

FF1/P-15  
Serial 001621

11 August 1943

~~SECRET~~

THIRD ENDORSEMENT to  
ComPhibSoPac SECRET ltr.  
FE25/P15 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.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/11/59

Signature- Carl S. Spicer

inCpac File

Pac-09-wlw  
P15  
Serial 00993

UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET  
Flagship of the Commander in Chief

5 August 1943

2nd Endorsement on  
ComAmphForSoPac  
SECRET Ltr. FE25/P15  
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

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/11/59

Signature-

*Carl L. Spicer*



ComSoPac File  
P15/(05A)  
Serial 001335

SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE  
of the United States Pacific Fleet  
Headquarters of the Commander

FIRST ENDORSEMENT to:  
ComAmphForSoPac SECRET  
ltr. FE25/P15 over Ser.  
0025b of July 11, 1943.

Jul 25 1943

~~SECRET~~

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 award of the Distinguished Service Medal to Commissioned Warrant Officer M. INES HARPER, RANR (S).

1. Forwarded, recommending the Legion of Merit, First Degree.

J. F. SHAFROTH,  
Deputy Commander  
South Pacific

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/11/59

Signature-

*Carl F. Spicer*

File No.  
FE25/P15  
Serial 0025b

AMPHIBIOUS FORCE  
SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE  
Office of the Commander

05/my

~~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 MORESEBY 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 Commander 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 14,17,19,20,1943.

Piloted the U.S.S.MANLEY to the RUSSELL ISLANDS.

March 23,1943.

Returned to the U.S.S.McCAWLEY 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.

5. 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.

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

Date- 2/11/59

Signature- Carl L. Spicer



*C. F.*  
*Navy*

4

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
WASHINGTON

27 November 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 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.

*Frank Knox*  
x18

x11-A  
x357-B

*Certificate signed 12-7-43*  
*ret'd to Sec. Navy 12-14-43*

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

Date- 2/11/59

Signature- *Carl S. Spicer*



QB4-HBY  
27 November 1943

**CONFIDENTIAL**

End--1 to CNO Conf. Ltr.  
(SC)P15/EF12 Op-16-A-5  
P15/OQ/EF12 Serial  
01405216 of 23 Nov 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 Attache 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 Attache 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:

1st Frank Roosevelt  
The Secretary of the Navy

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

Date- 2/11/59

Signature- Carl L. Spicer

CC: Bd of Dec & Medals

NAVY DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
WASHINGTON

(SC) P15/EF12  
Op-16-A-5  
P15/O4/EF12  
Serial 01405216

CONFIDENTIAL

23 Nov 1943

From: Chief of Naval Operations.  
To: Secretary of the Navy (Board of Decorations and Medals).  
Subj: Legion of Merit Award to Commander Edmundo Jordao  
Amorim do Valle, Naval Attache to the Brazilian Em-  
bassy 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.

x4857

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 2/11/59

Signature-

Carl L. Spicar

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.

ENCLOSURE (A) TO SERIAL OL405216

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

**DECLASSIFIED**

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

Date- 2/11/59

Signature-

*Carl F. Spicer*

~~SECRET~~

*C. F.*  
*Navy*

3 December 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 Silver Star Medal to the following British Officer:

CAPTAIN CECIL A. L. MANSEERH, 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.

*151 James Forrestal*  
*x18*

*01C*  
*JBC*  
*12-17-43*

x48-A

*original to Navy 12-17-43*

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

Date- 2/11/59

Signature- *Carl L. Spicer*

*White House File Copy*



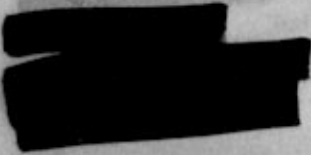


FF1/P15

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

Serial: 001707

23 AUG 1943

  
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.

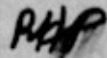
W. R. PURNELL,  
Deputy Chief of Staff.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DDO DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- JAN 28 1972

Signature: 

*White House File Copy*

NAVY DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON

QB4-DAS  
16 August 1943

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Fourth Endorsement  
to S.I.O., N.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 (9/27/58)

CC: Bd of Dec & Medals  
Cominch

Date- JAN 28 1972

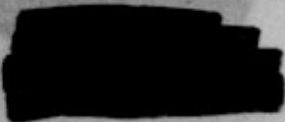
Signature- *RAD*

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

FF1/7-1022

Serial: 001539

2 AUG 1943

  
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.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT LIBRARY  
DECLASSIFIED

DDO DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/68)

Date- JAN 28 1972

Signature- *RHP*

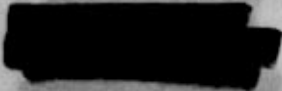
Cincpac File

Pac-09-wlw  
P15

UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET  
FLAGSHIP OF THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF

Serial: 00956

24 Jul 1943



2nd ENDORSEMENT on  
S.I.O., N.S.O, Bris-  
bane, QLD, Australia  
Secret Ltr. Dated 22  
May, 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: 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 Lieutenant T.O. Sexton, British Solomon Islands Protectorate Defense Force, be awarded the Legion of Merit.

C. W. NIMITZ

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT LIBRARY  
DECLASSIFIED

DDO DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- JAN 28 1972

Signature- *RHD*



COMSOPAC FILE

SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE

PL5/(05A)

OF THE UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET  
HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER

Serial: 001095

24 JUN. 1943

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.G. 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

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library  
DECLASSIFIED  
DDO DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/68)

Date- JAN 28 1972

Signature- RHP



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

Telephone:

MXV 550

Telegraphic Address:

"Navy, Melbourne".

NAVAL STAFF OFFICE,  
BRISBANE, QLD.

22nd May, 1943.

Colonel Julian Brown, U.S.M.C.  
Intelligence Officer, Staff,  
COMSOPAC

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.

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DCL  
RECORDED (9/27/88)

DONALD G. KENNEDY, B.S.I.P. Defence Force.

Present address: c/o D.S.I.C.  
GUADALCANAL.

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR 5200.9 (8/27/60)

[REDACTED] 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.

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DOB DIR 5200.9 (9/27/89)





THOMAS OLIVER SEXTON, Lieutenant B.S.I.P. Defence Force.

present address: 68 Carabella Street,  
KIRRIBILLI, SYDNEY.

[REDACTED]

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.

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)



CCMSOPAC FILE

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 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. Captain KENNEDY has led native patrols against Japanese landing and scouting parties with such courage and skill as to repel and entirely destroy several 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

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DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- JAN 28 1972

Signature- RHP

COMSOPAC FILE

SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE  
Of The United States Pacific Fleet  
Headquarters Of The Commander

[REDACTED]

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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OGD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- JAN 28 1972

Signature- RHP