



The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION to the

I CORPS RIVER PATROL GROUP

for service as set forth in the following CITATION:

For extraordinary heroism in action from 31 January to 29 February 1968 while conducting river patrols and convoy escorts on the Perfume River (Song Huong) between Hue and Tan My, Republic of Vietnam. During a major enemy attack on the city of Hue, River Patrol Boats (PBR's) of the I Corps River Patrol Group provided suppressive fire against large enemy forces on both banks of the river to permit helicopters to conduct urgent medical evacuation and ammunition resupply missions. In the course of the battle for the city, the enemy made a major effort to cut the waterborne supply route from the sea to Hue. Enemy ambushes, launched from entrenched positions on the river banks, brought the convoys, which were escorted by PER's, under intense fire from automatic weapons, recoilless rifles, mortars, and rocket-propelled grenades. Despite lack of armor and restricted maneuvering room, personnel of the I Corps River Patrol Group courageously maneuvered their units between the enemy fire and the supply craft to provide suppressive fire and to draw the enemy fire away from vital supplies. Each day, crewmen of the Patrol Group performed their dangerous tasks with the full knowledge that they would be heavily engaged by the enemy at certain locations along the banks, and subjected to sniper fire at any point along the route. Through their superior dedication and motivation, they ensured the flow of supplies to friendly forces inland. The outstanding performance and indomitable courage displayed by officers and men of the I Corps River Patrol Group in the face of a determined enemy campaign to cut the supply route to Hue, were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Richard V. Hines".