



THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
WASHINGTON

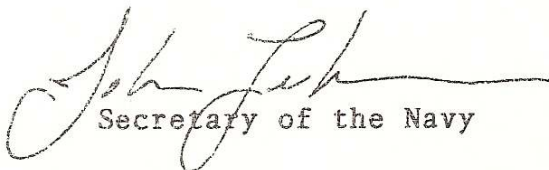
The Secretary of the Navy takes pleasure in presenting the
MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION to

BATTLE GROUP ALFA
(TASK GROUP 70.1)

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

For meritorious service during extended operations in the Western Pacific, Northern Pacific, and Indian Oceans from 27 July 1982 to 1 May 1984. In the face of highly visible and potentially hostile operations, Battle Group ALFA (Task Group 70.1) provided the first demonstration of the tactical concept of "flexible operations" in these widely dispersed areas of the world. Battle Group ALFA had an intense operational schedule requiring meticulous and demanding planning, preparation, and execution. Each operation elicited significant Soviet response and drew international attention to the flexibility of the Carrier Battle Group and its ability to maintain our Nation's presence in potential trouble spots. The demonstrated ability of the Battle Group to integrate logistics, intelligence collection, and training needs into operations countering real world threats enabled the United States to maintain an effective, flexible naval force at sea, ready to deploy immediately to any remote theater of operations. Battle Group ALFA repeatedly served as a flexible, ever-ready example of diplomacy, goodwill, and commitment to national policy, enabling the United States to deal diplomatically with any crisis situation from a highly visible position of strength and determination. Never standing down, Battle Group ALFA pressed on through the spectrum of international situations, clearly demonstrating they were without peer and the standard by which other carrier Battle Groups should be judged. By their sustained superb performance, steadfast teamwork, and complete dedication to duty, the officers, enlisted personnel, and civilian employees of Battle Group ALFA (Task Group 70.1) reflected credit upon themselves and upheld the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.


Secretary of the Navy