

UZCIABS43

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R 121507Z MAR 69

FM SECNAV

TO RUHIBRA/CINCPACFLT

INFO ZEN/CNO

R UHCSAF/COMSEVENTHFLT

R ULBJFA/COMNAVPER

R UWJAAA/COMCRODESPAC

R UHCSBA/COMDESRON NINE

BT

UNCLAS

NAVY UNIT COMMENDATION

**ORIGINAL**  
**DO NOT REMOVE FROM MSGCEN**

1. SECNAV HAS APPROVED THE FOLLOWING CITATION:  
THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY TAKES PLEASURE IN COMMENDING  
DESTROYER SQUADRON NINE  
FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING  
CITATION:

FOR EXCEPTIONALLY MERITORIOUS SERVICE DURING THE PERIOD 15 JUNE  
1966 TO 6 SEPTEMBER 1968 IN THE CONDUCT OF SUSTAINED COMBAT OPERATIONS  
AGAINST ENEMY AGGRESSOR FORCES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. DISPLAYING OUTSTAND-  
ING PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE, RESOURCEFULNESS, AND ENDURANCE, THE SHIPS

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OF DESTROYER SQUADRON NINE WERE COMMITTED TO CONTINUOUS COMBAT-SUPPORT  
OPERATIONS IN SUPPORT OF FREE WORLD GROUND FORCES IN THE REPUBLIC OF  
VIETNAM, AND IN OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS AGAINST NORTH VIETNAM. DURING THIS  
PERIOD OF MORE THAN TWO YEARS, THE SQUADRON EXPENDED OVER 148,000 ROUNDS  
OF AMMUNITION WHILE INFLECTING MAJOR DAMAGE AND CASUALTIES ON THE ENEMY.  
IN COMBAT OPERATIONS AGAINST THE TERRITORY OF NORTH VIETNAM, THE SQUA-  
DRON'S SHIPS DESTROYED 385 WATERBORNE LOGISTICS CRAFT, SUPPRESSED 98  
COASTAL DEFENSE ARTILLERY POSITIONS, DISRUPTED THE ENEMY'S MAIN LAND  
LINES OF COMMUNICATIONS, AND WERE ENGAGED IN DIRECT COMBAT WITH NORTH  
VIETNAMESE ARTILLERY UNITS ON 50 OCCASIONS. WHILE PROVIDING SUPPORT  
FOR UNITED STATES AIR OPERATIONS AGAINST NORTH VIETNAM, THE SQUADRON  
PARTICIPATED DIRECTLY IN THE RESCUE OF TWENTY-SIX AIRCREW MEMBERS  
DOWNED IN THE GULF OF TONKIN. DESTROYER SQUADRON NINE'S OUTSTANDING  
TRIBUTIONS DURING EXTENDED SERVICE WERE OF EXCEPTIONAL SIGNIFICANCE TO  
THE PROSECUTION OF THE WAR AGAINST COMMUNIST FORCES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA,  
AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE UNITED STATES  
NAVAL SERVICE.

ALL PERSONNEL ATTACHED TO AND SERVING WITH DESTROYER SQUADRON NINE  
DURING THE ABOVE-DESIGNATED PERIOD, OR ANY PART THEREOF, ARE HEREBY  
AUTHORIZED TO WEAR THE NAVY UNIT COMMENDATION RIBBON.

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2. AUTHORITY IS HEREBY GRANTED FOR ELIGIBLE PERSONNEL TO WEAR THE  
RIBBON, UNIT TO DISPLAY INSIGNIA, AND APPROPRIATE SERVICE RECORD  
ENTRIES TO BE MADE AT DISCRETION OF COMMANDER DESTROYER SQUADRON NINE  
PENDING FORMAL PROMULGATION OF NUC BY CHIEF OF NAVAL PERSONNEL  
3. CNO CONCURS.

JOHN F. BARNER  
UNDER SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

1 CGG

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