



**CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE COAST GUARD ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL**

TO

**LIEUTENANT (JUNIOR GRADE) DOUGLAS C. CONNOR
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

Lieutenant (Junior Grade) CONNOR is cited for outstanding achievement and superior performance of duty while serving as copilot of Coast Guard HH52-A 1408 engaged in the rescue of four men from the fishing vessel Sea Gem on the evening of 30 November 1982. Lieutenant (Junior Grade) CONNOR navigated the helicopter to the scene and located Sea Gem in ten-to-fifteen-foot seas with extremely confused winds. He professionally evaluated conditions, made recommendations and verbally monitored gauges for the pilot in command. He calmly briefed the crew of Sea Gem and greatly aided in crew coordination as a dewatering pump was delivered to the distressed vessel after losing the trail line. Thirteen minutes after delivery of the pump, the crew of the Sea Gem demanded evacuation. Lieutenant (Junior Grade) CONNOR again provided expert backup as the helicopter moved between 35 and 110 feet to stay clear of the wildly swinging mast and rigging. The second and only trail line snapped as the first man was hoisted leaving no option but a direct hoist for the last three survivors. Throughout the flight Lieutenant (Junior Grade) CONNOR handled all communications with the Sea Gem, Group Humboldt Bay, Station Chetco River and Flight Service Station Arcata. His innovative actions, diligence and sound judgment greatly aided in the lifesaving rescue of four men. His unwavering devotion to duty is most heartily commended and is in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.

The Operational Distinguishing Device is authorized.