



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

TO

**RAYMOND G. HEVEY
AVIATION STRUCTURAL MECHANIC FIRST CLASS
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

Petty Officer HEVEY is cited for meritorious performance of duty on the afternoon of 7 March 1962, while serving as hoist operator of Coast Guard helicopter, HO4S 1281, engaged in the rescue of men, women, and children during the flood emergency on Chincoteague Island, Virginia. Upon arrival at the distress scene, the helicopter crew found the island almost inundated by ocean flooding. The populace was being evacuated from established sites within the flooded township to safe havens by helicopters of other services on the scene. Although severely handicapped by strong and turbulent winds, the Coast Guard helicopter immediately began a sweeping search for persons stranded and unable to wade to these evacuation sites. When small groups of survivors were subsequently located in inaccessible places, HEVEY guided the pilots by voice communication into position to accomplish several hoist operations, and by his skill and proficient handling of the hoist undoubtedly contributed to the saving of many lives. His courage, sound judgment, and unwavering devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.