

U.S.S. TORTUGA (LSD-26)  
Fleet Post Office  
San Francisco, California 96601

01/JHR:rlb  
1650  
Ser: 434

6 September 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: RESTEMAYER, Thomas L., GMCSA, 918 98 67, USN  
Via: Commanding Officer, River Patrol Section 512

Subj: Letter of Commendation

1. During the period of 10 June 1966 through 08 September 1966. River Patrol Section 512 was embarked in the USS TORTUGA (LSD-26) and conducted operations in the Bassac and Co Chien Rivers and in the rivers of the Rung Sat Special Zone of the Republic of Vietnam.
2. Boats from your River Section successfully engaged the enemy on several occasions, sinking nine sampans and killing at least nine of the Viet Cong. Approximately 2400 sampans were searched while conducting these operations.
3. During the period of 20 June 1966 to 22 June 1966 you participated in the salvage of the steel hulled trawler "20D2". The Trawler was grounded adjacent to the LOMH TOAN Secret Zone of Vinh Binh Province. You materially contributed to the success of this operation by working in the seaward barrier patrols around the Trawler and by furnishing fast water transportation of key personnel, members of the press and VIPs. In addition, you and your boats assisted in the transportation of cargo salvaged from the trawler to the TOE
4. When word was received that a Coastal Group 36 junk had floundered and sunk in the vicinity of USS TORTUGA, you volunteered your service for a Search and Rescue Operation in spite of high winds and rough seas.
5. During the period that you have been aboard TORTUGA as part of River Section 512 you have contributed to the accomplishment of the assigned mission in an outstanding manner. Your performance has been in keeping with the fine traditions of the Naval Service and your splendid efforts are hereby commended. Well Done.

*W. Heinberg*  
W. HEINBERG