FLEET TUG (ATF), RESCUE TUG (ATR), AUXILIARY TUG (ATA), OLD TUG (ATO), HARBOR TUG (YT), AND SALVAGE SHIP (ARS) HALL OF VALOR

Navy Cross Medal



World War I

James S. Trayer

World War II

Frederick Lawrence Arsenault Eugene Lorell Boyd James W. Darroch Nathaniel Minter Dial Roy Benjamin Dowling Ernest Willard Downey William Reynolds Freeman Ernest John Gentile Joseph Greely Andrew Jackson House Raymond Edward Johnson Richard Wood Joyce William A. Music, Jr. Joseph Orleck James Charles Oster Lucas John Perry Richard Graham Shelley Edwin Sperry Mark Warren Starkweather Arthur Wagner Peroneau Brown Wingo Edward Leo Wisniewski Czeslaw Zymroz

Silver Star Medal



World War II

Bronze Star Medal



World War II

Navy and Marine Corps Medal



World War II

John T. Ashcraft

Cold War

Donnie Joe Bramlett

Prisoner of War Medal



World War II

Eugene Lorell Boyd Nathaniel Minter Dial Ernest Willard Downey Robert Leroy Howard James Charles Oster

Navy Unit Commendation (No associated medal)



World War II

Combat Salvage and Fire Fighting Unit Force "O"

Invasion of France, 7-12 June 1944

USS Arikara (ATF-98)

USS ATR-2

USS Pinto (ATF-90)

Ship Salvage, Fire Fighting and Rescue Unit, Service Force, 7th Fleet
USS Apache (ATF-67) (6 January – 15 February 1945)
USS ATR-31 (7-8 December 1944)
USS ATR-61 (6 January – 15 February 1945)
USS Cable (ARS-19) (20 October 1944 – 10 June 1945)
USS Chickasaw (ATF-83) (6 January – 15 February 1945)
USS Chowanoc (ATF-100) (6 January – 15 February 1945)
USS Grapple (ARS-7) (6 January – 15 February 1945)
USS Grasp (ARS-24) (6 January – 10 June 1945)

SUMMARY OF BATTLE STARS EARNED DURING WORLD WAR II

American Campaign Medal (One or more battle stars)



World War II

USS Pessacus (YTB-192) USS Uncas (YTB-242) 3-8 Nov 1942 3-8 Nov 1942 Lt. (jg) Arthur T. Guja, USNR Ens. C. W. Smith

European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal (One or more battle stars)



World War II

North Africa occupation: Algeria-Morocco landings (8 November 1942)

Ship
USS Cherokee (ATF-66)

Award Period 8-11 Nov 1942 Commanding Officer/*Ship Losses/Damage
Lt. Jacob F. Lawson, USN

Sicilian occupation (9 July 1943)					
USS Brant (ARS-32)	9-15 Jul 1943	Lt. Chester H. Rockbridge, USN			
USS <i>Hopi</i> (ATF-71)	9-15 Jul 1943	Lt. Owen W. Huff, USN			
USS Moreno (ATF-87)	9-15 Jul 1943				
` ,	<i>S</i>	Lt. (jg) V. H. Kyllberg, USN			
USS Naragansett (ATF-88)	9-15 Jul 1943	Lt. C. J. Wichmann, USN			
USS Nauset (ATF-89)	9-15 Jul 1943	Lt. Joseph Orleck, USN			
USS YT-197	9-15 Jul 1943	O W/ N			
USS Intent (YT-458)/later	9-15 Jul 1943	O. W. Norr			
renamed USS Evea (Y	•	D. I. O. 16			
USS Resolute (YT-459)/later	9-15 Jul 1943	R. L. Self			
renamed USS Edensh	,				
USS YTL-161	15-21 Jul 1943				
USS YTL-165	9-21 Jul 1943				
USS YTL-186	9-15 Jul 1943				
	Salerno landings (9	= '			
USS Brant (ARS-32)	9-21 Sep 1943	Lt. Chester H. Rooklidge, USNR/			
		Lt. J. N. Tornberg, USNR			
USS Tackle (ARS-37)	9-21 Sep 1943	Lt. J. M. Gillespie, USNR			
USS <i>Hopi</i> (ATF-71)	9-21 Sep 1943	Lt. Owen W. Huff, USN			
USS Moreno (ATF-87)	9-21 Sep 1943	Lt. V. H. Kyllberg, USNR			
USS Naragansett (ATF-88)	9-21 Sep 1943	Lt. C. J. Wichmann, USN			
USS Nauset (ATF-89)*	9-21 Sep 1943	Lt. Joseph Orleck, USN; ship sunk by enemy			
, ,	•	bombs and mines			
USS <i>YT-154</i>	9-21 Sep 1943				
USS <i>YT-157</i>	9-21 Sep 1943				
USS <i>YT-197</i>	9-21 Sep 1943	Chief Bos'n Fred Reep in 1944, and perhaps			
	r	earlier			
USS Intent (YT-458)*/later	9-21 Sep 1943	O. W. Norr; ship bombed — damaged while			
renamed USS Evea (YTB-458)		fighting fire aboard the <i>Nauset</i> — repaired			
USS Resolute (YT-459)/later	•	R. L. Self			
` ,	-	10.11.001			
renamed USS <i>Edenshaw</i> (YTB-459) West Coast of Italy operations: Anzio-Nettuno advanced landings (22 January 1944)					
USS Restorer (ARS-17)		Lt. C. M. Boyd, USNR			
USS Weight (ARS-34)	28 Jan-5 Feb 44	Lt. Comdr. F. J. Leamond, USNR			
USS <i>Hopi</i> (ATF-71)	1-28 Feb 1944	Lt. Owen W. Huff, USN			
USS ATR-1	22-30 Jan 1944	Lt. (jg) H. L. MacGill, USN			
USS Edenshaw (YTB-459)	22 Jan-1 Mar 44	R. L. Self			
033 Lucusnum (11B-437)					
Invasion of Normandy (6 June 1944)					
USS Brant (ARS-32)	6-25 Jun 1944	Lt. John Norman Tornberg			
USS Diver (ARS-5)	6-25 Jun 1944	Lt. Daniel D. Hollyer			
USS Swivel (ARS-36)	6-25 Jun 1944				
USS ATA-125	6-25 Jun 1944				
USS ATA-170	6-25 Jun 1944				
USS ATA-172	6-25 Jun 1944				
USS Arikara (ATF-98)	6-25 Jun 1944				
USS Bannock (ATF-81)	6-25 Jun 1944				
USS Kiowa (ATF-72)	6-25 Jun 1944				
USS <i>Pinto</i> (ATF-90)	6-25 Jun 1944				

USS Algorma (ATO-34)	6-25 Jun 1944	Lt. (jg) Robert Marshall Whelpley
USS Cormorant (ATO-133)	6-25 Jun 1944	
USS Kewaydin (ATO-24)	6-25 Jun 1944	Lt. Frank Hill Lemon/
		Lt. (jg) Gilbert Emerson Perry
USS Owl (ATO-137)	6-25 Jun 1944	Lt. Samuel David Tuttle
USS Partridge (ATO-138)*	6-11 Jun 1944	Lt. Adnah Neyhart Cald/Lt. James
	Carlton Wilson White (XO)/	*ship sunk after being torpedoed by
	German motor torpedo boats	s off Normandy, France, 11 June 1944
USS ATR-2	25 Jun 1944	
USS ATR-3	25 Jun 1944	
USS ATR-4	25 Jun 1944	
USS ATR-13	25 Jun 1944	
USS ATR-15	25 Jun 1944	
USS ATR-54	6-25 Jun 1944	
Inv	asion of Southern France (15	August 1944)
USS Extricate (ARS-16)	15 Aug-25 Sep 1944	
USS Restorer (ARS-17)	15 Aug-25 Sep 1944	Lt. C. M. Boyd
USS Tackle (ARS-37)	15 Aug-25 Sep 1944	
USS Weight (ARS-35)	15 Aug-25 Sep 1944	
USS <i>Arikara</i> (ATF-98)	15 Aug-25 Sep 1944	Lt. John Aitken, USN
USS Hopi (ATF-71)	15 Aug-25 Sep 1944	Lt. Oscar W. Huff, USN
USS Moreno (ATF-87)	15 Aug-25 Sep 1944	Lt. (jg) Harry Victor Kyllberg, USN
USS Naragansett (ATF-88)	15 Aug-25 Sep 1944	Lt. (jg) Charles John Wichmann, USN
USS Pinto (ATF-90)	15 Aug-25 Sep 1944	Lt. Ralph Brown, USN
USS ATR-1	15 Aug-25 Sep 1944	
USS Edenshaw (YTB-459)	15 Aug-25 Sep 1944	
USS Evea (YTB-458)	15 Aug-25 Sep 1944	
USS YTL-160	19 Aug-25 Sep 1944	
USS <i>YTL-161</i>	19 Aug-25 Sep 1944	
USS <i>YTL-165</i>	19 Aug-25 Sep 1944	
USS YTL-186	19 Aug-25 Sep 1944	
USS YTL-196	19 Aug-25 Sep 1944	
USS YTL-210	19 Aug-25 Sep 1944	

Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal (One or more battle stars)



Information regarding tugs and salvage ships that earned battle stars in the Asiatic and Pacific Theaters during World War II has not yet been compiled.

SUMMARY OF BATTLE STARS EARNED DURING THE KOREAN WAR

North Korean Aggression 1950				
USS Arikara (ATF-98)	2 Jul-2 Nov 1950			
USS Bolster (ARS-38)	15 Sep-2 Nov 1950	Lt. Billis Lonzo Whitworth		
USS Conserver (ARS-39)	18 Jul-2 Nov 1950	Lt. William McGee		
USS Cree (ATF-84)	17 Jul-26 Oct 1950	Lt. George Edward Poore		
USS Lipan (ATF-85)	15 Jul-2 Nov 1950	Lt. Comdr. Howard Kineaid Smith		
USS Mataco (ATF-86)	18 Sep-2 Nov 1950	Lt. Frank Preston Wilson		
()	Inchon landing			
USS Arikara (ATF-98)	13-17 Sep 1950			
USS Conserver (ARS-39)	15-17 Sep 1950	Lt. William McGee		
USS Cree (ATF-84)	14-15 Sep 1950	Lt. George Edward Poore		
USS Lipan (ATF-85)	15-17 Sep 1950	Lt. Comdr. Howard Kineaid Smith		
USS Mataco (ATF-86)	13-17 Sep 1950	Lt. Frank Preston Wilson		
(Communist China Aggr			
USS <i>Arikara</i> (ATF-98)	3 Nov-30 Dec 1950			
USS Bolster (ARS-38)	3 Nov 50-19 Jan 51	Lt. Billis Lonzo Whitworth		
USS Conserver (ARS-39)	3 Nov 50-24 Jan 51	Lt. William McGee		
USS Cree (ATF-84)	8 Nov 50-14 Jan 51	Lt. George Edward Poore		
USS Lipan (ATF-85)	3 Nov 50-9 Jan 51	Lt. Comdr. Howard Kineaid Smith		
USS Mataco (ATF-86)	3-28 Nov 1950	Lt. Frank Preston Wilson		
USS Tawakoni (ATF-114)	15 Nov 50-5 Jan 51	Lt. Louis Burton Scribner		
,	First U.N. Counter Off	ensive 1951		
USS Bolster (ARS-38)	9 Feb-16 Apr 1951	Lt. Billis Lonzo Whitworth/		
,	-	Lt. Harold J. Harding		
USS Conserver (ARS-39)	25-28 Jan 1951	Lt. William McGee		
USS Cree (ATF-84)	20 Mar-4 Apr 1951	Lt. George Edward Poore		
USS Deliver (ARS-23)	21 Jul-21 Nov 1951	Lt. Wilson F. Tutt		
USS Grapple (ARS-7)	8 Mar-12 Apr 1951	Lt. Roy Coniam		
USS Grasp (ARS-24)	8 Mar-13 Apr 1951	Lt. Comdr. Sam J. Brown		
USS Quapaw (ATF-110)	30 Mar-21 Apr 1951	Lt. Robert M. Christian		
USS Tawakoni (ATF-114)	17 Feb-21 Apr 1951	Lt. Louis Burton Scribner		
Communist China Spring Offensive 1951				
USS Abnaki (ATF-96)	6-8 Jul 1951			
USS Bolster (ARS-38)	17-21 May 1951	Lt. Harold J. Harding		
USS Grasp (ARS-24)	5-27 Jun 1951	Lt. Comdr. Sam J. Brown		
USS Hitchiti(ATF-103)	5 May-7 Jul 1951	Lt. Wesley Bruce Scott		
USS Quapaw (ATF-110)	22 Apr-25 May 1951	Lt. Robert M. Christian		
USS Moctobi (ATF-105)	30 Apr-18 Jun 1951	Lt. Comdr. John M. Geortner		
USS Reclaimer (ARS-42)	24 May-1 Jul 1951	Lt. Marion C. Kilpatrick		
USS Tawakoni (ATF-114)	22 Apr-5 May 1951	Lt. Louis Burton Scribner		

U.N. Summer-Fall Offensive 1951				
USS Abnaki (ATF-96)	9 Jul-27 Nov 1951			
USS Conserver (ARS-39)	30 Oct-12 Nov 1951	Lt. William McGee		
USS Grasp (ARS-24)	19 Apr-13 Sep 1951	Lt. Comdr. Sam J. Brown		
USS <i>Hitchiti</i> (ATF-103)	4 Aug-11 Nov 1951	Lt. Wesley Bruce Scott		
USS Keosanqua (ATA-198)	4-8 Nov 1951	•		
USS Moctobi (ATF-105)	7 Sep-8 Nov 1951	Lt. Comdr. John M. Geortner		
USS Quapaw (ATF-110)	19 Jul-3 Aug 1951	Lt. Robert M. Christian		
USS Reclaimer (ARS-42)	3 Aug-27 Nov 1951	Lt. Marion C. Kilpatrick		
USS Yuma (ATF-94)	16 Oct-1 Nov 1951	r		
	Second Korean Winter 1	1951-52		
USS Abnaki (ATF-96)	28 Nov 51-20 Jan 52			
USS Apache (ATF-67)	19 Dec 51-28 Apr 52			
USS <i>Arikara</i> (ATF-98)	5 Feb 52-17 Apr 52			
USS Bolster (ARS-38)	8 Feb-12 Apr 1952	Lt. George Emery Eason		
USS Conserver (ARS-39)	19 Dec 51-30 Apr 52	Lt. William McGee/		
(1116 65)	1, 2 cc c1 cc 11p1 c2	Lt. William Francis Lewis		
USS Current (ARS-22)	22 Feb-30 Apr 1952	Lt. Charles Edward Tiernan		
USS Deliver (ARS-23)	22 Nov 51-19 Jan 52	Lt. Wilson F. Tutt		
USS Hitchiti(ATF-103)	28 Nov 51-11 Jan 52	Lt. Wesley Bruce Scott		
USS Keosanqua (ATA-198)	11 Jan-21 Mar 1952	Et. Wesley Druce Scott		
USS Mender (ARSD-2)	13-24 Apr 1952	Lt. Comdr. John D. Stensrud		
USS Reclaimer (ARS-42)	28 Nov-19 Dec 1951	Lt. Marion C. Kilpatrick		
USS Sarsi (ATF-111)	30 Apr 1952	Lt. William Meyer Howard		
USS Unadilla (ATA-182)	11-15 Apr 1952	Lt. William Weyer Howard		
USS <i>Ute</i> (ATF-76)	23 Feb-30 Apr 1952			
USS Yuma (ATF-94)	1 Dec 51-17 Apr 52			
033 Tuma (1111-74)	Korean Defense, Summer-	Fall 1952		
USS Apache (ATF-67)	9 May-28 Jun 1952	-1 an 1/32		
USS Arikara (ATF-98)	17 May-7 Aug 1952			
USS Bolster (ARS-38)	3 Jun-15 Jul 1952	Lt. George Emery Eason		
USS Conserver (ARS-39)	1 May 1952	Lt. William Francis Lewis		
,		Lt. Charles Edward Tiernan		
USS Current (ARS-22)	1 May-5 Sep 1952			
USS Grapple (ARS-7)	17 May-3 Nov 1952	Lt. Roy Coniam/		
LICC Court (ADC 24)	26 Apr 20 Nov 1052	Comdr. Charles Robert Clark		
USS Grasp (ARS-24)	26 Aug-30 Nov 1952	Lt. Comdr. R. W. Roliman		
USS Quapaw (ATF-110)	26 Oct-20 Nov 1952	Lt. Robert M. Christian/		
LICC Mataco (ATE 96)	14 Con 16 Oat 1052	Lt. John Rudolph Troike		
USS Mataco (ATF-86)	14 Sep-16 Oct 1952	Lt. James Howard Danehower		
USS Mender (ARSD-2)	5 May-30 Aug 1952	I DED 1		
USS Molala (ATF-106)	25-30 Nov 1952	Lt. R. F. Reed		
USS Safeguard (ARS-25)	22 Sep-26 Oct 1952	Lt. Comdr. Irvin Boaz		
USS Sarsi (ATF-111)	1 May-27 Aug 1952	Lt. William Meyer Howard		
USS Takelma (ATF-113)	20 Aug-21 Sep 1952	Lt. John Draney O'Kane		
USS Tawasa (ATF-92)	19 Jul-30 Nov 1952	Lt. Edwin Ma ri an Leidholdt		
USS Unadilla (ATA-182)	6-19 Jul 1952			
USS Ute (ATF-76) 1 May-29 Sep 1952 Third Koroop Winter 1052, 53				

1 May-29 Sep 1952 **Third Korean Winter 1952-53**

USS Bolster (ARS-38)	8 Mar-11 Apr 1953	Lt. George Emery Eason	
USS Chickasaw (ATF-83)	4-30 Apr 1953	Lt. Bell/Lt. Maurice L. Sawin	
USS Conserver (ARS-39)	8-30 Apr 1953	Lt. William Francis Lewis	
USS Grasp (ARS-24)	1 Dec 52-5 Apr 53	Lt. Comdr. R. W. Roliman	
USS Gypsy (ARSD-1)	11 Jan-30 Apr 1953		
USS Keosanqua (ATA-198)	24 Apr 1953	Lt. A. R. File	
USS Molala (ATF-106)	4 Dec 52-23 Apr 53	Lt. R. F. Reed	
USS Quapaw (ATF-110)	17 Jan-12 Apr 1953	Lt. John Rudolph Troike	
USS Reclaimer (ARS-42)	1 Dec 52-30 Apr 53	Lt. Comdr. Alman Calhoun	
USS Safeguard (ARS-25)	30 Dec 52-29 Apr 53	Lt. Comdr. Irvin Boaz	
USS Takelma (ATF-113)	2 Dec 52-18 Feb 53	Lt. John Draney O'Kane	
USS Tawasa (ATF-92)	1 Dec 52-3 Jan 53	Lt. Edwin Marian Leidholdt	
Korea, Summer-Fall 1953			
USS Chickasaw (ATF-83)	1 May-25 Jul 1953	Lt. Bell/Lt. Maurice L. Sawin	
USS Chowanoc (ATF-100)	13 May-22 Jul 1953	Lt. Richard Elward Taylor	
USS Cocopa (ATF-101)	16 May-27 Jul 1953	Lt. Walter Orrin Wilson	
USS Conserver (ARS-39)	1 May-10 Jul 1953	Lt. William Francis Lewis	
USS Current (ARS-22)	6 Jun-27 Jul 1953	Lt. Charles Edward Tiernan/	
		Lt. Milton Reynold Hill Jr.	
USS Deliver (ARS-23)	21 May-27 Jul 1953	Lt. Wilson F. Tutt/	
		Lt. Peter Kowalchyk	
USS Gypsy (ARSD-1)	1-6 May 1953		
USS Lipan (ATF-85)	16 Jun-27 Jul 1953	Lt. R. M. Hughson	
USS Molala (ATF-106)	3-13 May 1953	Lt. R. F. Reed	
USS Reclaimer (ARS-42)	1-16 May 1953	Lt. H. K. Smith	

Note: Please contact David to identify omitted persons or to provide award citations. The below citations are presented generally in chronological order, and not in alphabetic order by surnames of award recipients. Please assist in making this listing more comprehensive by providing names of omitted individuals and/or copies of missing award citations.

WORLD WAR I

USS *Sonoma*: Winter of 1917-1918 NAVY CROSS MEDAL

Lieutenant James S. Trayer, United States Navy

The President of the United States of America takes pleasure in presenting the Navy Cross to Lieutenant James S. Trayer, United States Navy, for distinguished service in the line of his profession as Commanding Officer of the U.S.S. *Sonoma* in assisting icebound vessels in the winter of 1917-18; in constant and efficient attendance on the mine-laying squadron; and for valuable and seamanlike assistance under very difficult circumstances, in connection with the loss of the British ship *Huntscliff*.

WORLD WAR II

DEFENSE OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

Tugmaster, Cavite Navy Yard: 10 December 1941 NAVY CROSS MEDAL

Chief Boatswain James Charles Oster, United States Navy

The President of the United States of America takes pleasure in presenting the Navy Cross to Chief Boatswain James Charles Oster (NSN: 73938), United States Navy, for exceptionally meritorious conduct and efficiency in time of stress while serving as Tugmaster, Cavite Navy Yard, during the bombardment of that station in the Philippine Islands by Japanese air forces beginning 10 December 1941, and during subsequent occupation by the Japanese of Manila Bay Area. His conduct throughout was in keeping with the highest traditions of the Navy of the United States. (Oster was captured by the Japanese after the fall of Corregidor, Philippine Islands, on 6 May 1942, and was held as a Prisoner of War until his death while in captivity on or about 24 October 1944.)

USS Genesee (AT-55): 7 December 1941 – 25 February 1942 NAVY CROSS MEDAL

Ensign Eugene Lorell Boyd, United States Navy

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Navy Cross to Eugene Lorell Boyd (0-70804), Ensign, U.S. Navy, for extraordinary heroism and distinguished service in the line of his profession as Commanding Officer of the Fleet Tug U.S.S. GENESEE (AT-55), during the defense of Manila Bay, in the Philippine Islands, from 7 December 1941 to 25 February 1942. While exposed to frequent horizontal and dive bombing attacks by enemy Japanese air forces, Ensign Boyd directed the anti-aircraft batteries of his ship and conducted operations of strategic importance involving hazardous missions such as to bring great credit to his command and the U.S. Naval Service.

(Boyd was captured by the Japanese after the fall of Corregidor, Philippine Islands, on 6 May 1942, and was held as a Prisoner of War until returned to U.S. Military control during operations to liberate the Philippines in 1945.)

USS *Napa* (AT-32): 7 December 1941 – 18 March 1942 NAVY CROSS MEDAL

Lieutenant Commander Nathaniel Minter Dial, United States Navy

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Navy Cross (Posthumously) to Nathaniel Minter Dial (0-27906), Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy, for extraordinary heroism and distinguished service in the line of his profession as Commanding Officer of the Fleet Tug U.S.S. NAPA (AT-32), in combat with the enemy during the period 7 December 1941 to 18 March 1942. While exposed to frequent horizontal and dive bombing attacks by enemy Japanese air forces, Lieutenant Commander Dial directed the anti-aircraft batteries of his ship and conducted operations of strategic importance involving hazardous missions such as to bring great credit to his command and the United States Naval Service.

(Dial was captured by the Japanese after the fall of Corregidor, Philippine Islands, on 6 May 1942, and was held as a Prisoner of War until his death while still in captivity.)

USS *Napa* (AT-32): 18 March – 9 April 1942 NAVY CROSS MEDAL

Ensign Peroneau Brown Wingo, Ensign, United States Naval Reserve
The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Navy Cross (Posthumously) to
Peroneau Brown Wingo, Ensign, U.S. Navy (Reserve), for extraordinary heroism and distinguished
service in the line of his profession as Commanding Officer of the Fleet Tug U.S.S. NAPA (AT-32),
during the defense of the Philippine Islands from 18 March 1942 through 9 April 1942. Throughout
this period Ensign Wingo directed the fire of his antiaircraft battery and participated in operations of
strategic importance in the Manila Bay area involving hazardous missions, while exposed to frequent
horizontal and dive-bombing attacks by enemy Japanese air forces. Ensign Wingo's inspiring
leadership and the valiant devotion to duty of his command contributed in large measure to the
outstanding success of these vital missions and reflect great credit upon the United States Naval
Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country.

USS *Vega* (YT-116): 7 December 1941 – 25 February 1942 NAVY CROSS

Boatswain Ernest Willard Downey (NSN: 80495), United States Navy

The President of the United States of America takes pleasure in presenting the Navy Cross to Boatswain Ernest Willard Downey (NSN: 80495), United States Navy, for heroism in combat against the enemy directing and operating anti-aircraft fire from his vessel while exposed to frequent attacks by the enemy and dive bombers, during the period 7 December 1941 to 25 February 1942, while on board the U.S.S. VAGA (YT-116). While exposed to frequent horizontal and dive bombing attacks by enemy Japanese air forces, Boatswain Downey participated in operations of strategic importance involving hazardous missions such as to reflect great credit upon the United States Naval Service.

(Downey was captured by the Japanese after the fall of Corregidor, Philippine Islands, on 6 May 1942, and was held as a Prisoner of War until returned to U.S. Military control during operations to liberate the Philippines in 1945.)

PRISONER OF WAR MEDALS - 5

.The fleet tug USS *Napa* (AT-32) was scuttled off Bataan, Luzon, Philippine Islands, on 9 April 1942, and the USS *Genesee* (AT-55) off Corregidor, Luzon, Philippine Islands, on 5 May 1942 to prevent the ships from falling into enemy hands. The below individuals were captured during the defense of the Philippines and interned as Prisoners of War.

USS Napa (AT-32)

Lieutenant Commander Nathaniel Minter Dial Yeoman Seaman Apprentice Robert Leroy Howard USS Vega (YT-116)

Boatswain Ernest Willard Downey

<u>USS Genesee (AT-55)</u>
Ensign Eugene Lorell Boyd
<u>Tugmaster, Cavite Navy Yard</u>
Chief Boatswain James Charles Oster

(Howard was captured by the Japanese after the fall of Corregidor, Philippine Islands, on 6 May 1942, and was held as a Prisoner of War until his recovery by U.S. Forces which liberated the Bilibid Prison Camp on 5 February 1945.)

ASSAULT AND OCCUPATION OF FRENCH MOROCCO

USS *Cherokee* (AT-66): 9 November 1942 NAVY CROSS MEDALS – 11

Lieutenant Mark Warren Starkweather, United States Naval Reserve
The President of the United States of America takes pleasure in presenting the Navy Cross to
Lieutenant Mark Warren Starkweather, United States Naval Reserve, for extraordinary heroism and
distinguished service in the line of his profession as commander of a demolition party attached to
the Fleet Tug U.S.S. CHEROKEE (AT-66), during the assault on and occupation of French
Morocco from 8 to 11 November 1942. Assigned the extremely dangerous task of cutting through
an enemy obstruction in order that the U.S.S. DALLAS could navigate up the Sebou River in order
to land raiders near a strategic airport, Lieutenant Starkweather and his crew, on the night of 9
November, proceeded with grim determination toward their objective. Despite the treacherous surf,
he and his shipmates skillfully and courageously accomplished their hazardous mission of cutting the
cables at the mouth of the river, as guns from the French fort opened fire. Countering the enemy's
attack, Lieutenant Starkweather dauntlessly started back and, in spite of enormous breakers which
battered his boat, brought her and her courageous crew back to safety. His conduct throughout this
action reflects great credit upon himself, and was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United
States Naval Service.

Boatswain's Mate First Class Roy Benjamin Dowling, United States Naval Reserve The President of the United States of America takes pleasure in presenting the Navy Cross to Boatswain's Mate First Class Roy Benjamin Dowling, United States Naval Reserve, for extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty as member of a demolition party attached to the Fleet Tug U.S.S. CHEROKEE (AT-66), during the assault on and occupation of French Morocco from 8 to 11 November 1942. Assigned the extremely dangerous task of cutting through an enemy obstruction in order that the U.S.S. DALLAS could navigate up the Sebou River in order to land raiders near a strategic airport in order to land raiders near a strategic airport, Boatswain's Mate First Class Dowling and his shipmates, on the night of 9 November, proceeded with grim determination toward their objective. Despite the treacherous surf, he and his comrades skillfully and courageously accomplished their hazardous mission of cutting the cables at the mouth of the river, as guns from the French fort opened fire. Countering the enemy's attack until out of range, Boatswain's Mate First Class Dowling and the other members of his party, in spite of the enormous breakers which battered their boat, brought her back to safety. His conduct throughout was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

Gunner's Mate Second Class William Reynolds Freeman, United States Navy
The President of the United States of America takes pleasure in presenting the Navy Cross to
Gunner's Mate Second Class William Reynolds Freeman (NSN: 4111797), United States Navy, for
extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty as member of a demolition party attached to the Fleet
Tug U.S.S. CHEROKEE (AT-66), during the assault on and occupation of French Morocco from 8
to 11 November 1942. On the night of 9 November 1942, Gunner's Mate Second Class Freeman
was a member of a demolition party which was assigned the task of cutting a passage through a
navigational obstruction at the mouth of the Sebou River at Mehdia. With great skill and courage
this party successfully passed through the treacherous breakers at the entrance and accomplished
this task in the face of hostile fire. This was done for the purpose of permitting the U.S.S. DALLAS
to navigate up the river to the airport near Port Lyautey to land a group of raiders to take that

important objective. The courage and skill displayed by Gunner's Mate Second Class Freeman, with complete disregard for his own personal safety, were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

Machinist's Mate First Class Ernest John Gentile, United States Naval Reserve
The President of the United States of America takes pleasure in presenting the Navy Cross to
Machinist's Mate First Class Ernest John Gentile, United States Naval Reserve, for extraordinary
heroism and devotion to duty as member of a demolition party attached to the Fleet Tug U.S.S.
CHEROKEE (AT-66), during the assault on and occupation of French Morocco from 8 to 11
November 1942. Assigned the extremely dangerous task of cutting through an enemy obstruction in
order that the U.S.S. DALLAS could navigate up the Sebou River in order to land raiders near a
strategic airport, Machinist's Mate First Class Gentile and his shipmates, on the night of 9
November, proceeded with grim determination toward their objective. Despite the treacherous surf,
he and his comrades skillfully and courageously accomplished their hazardous mission of cutting the
cables at the mouth of the river, as guns from the French fort opened fire. Countering the enemy's
attack until out of range, Machinist's Mate First Class Gentile and the other members of his party, in
spite of the enormous breakers which battered their boat, brought her back to safety. His conduct
throughout was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

Shipfitter Third Class Raymond Edward Johnson, United States Naval Reserve The President of the United States of America takes pleasure in presenting the Navy Cross to Shipfitter Third Class Raymond Edward Johnson, United States Naval Reserve, for extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty as member of a demolition party attached to the Fleet Tug U.S.S. CHEROKEE (AT-66), during the assault on and occupation of French Morocco from 8 to 11 November 1942. Assigned the extremely dangerous task of cutting through an enemy obstruction in order that the U.S.S. DALLAS could navigate up the Sebou River in order to land raiders near a strategic airport, Shipfitter Third Class Johnson and his shipmates, on the night of 9 November, proceeded with grim determination toward their objective. Despite the treacherous surf, he and his comrades skillfully and courageously accomplished their hazardous mission of cutting the cables at the mouth of the river, as guns from the French fort opened fire. Countering the enemy's attack until out of range, Shipfitter Third Class Johnson and the other members of his party, in spite of the enormous breakers which battered their boat, brought her back to safety. His conduct throughout was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

Shipfitter First Class Richard Wood Joyce, United States Naval Reserve
The President of the United States of America takes pleasure in presenting the Navy Cross to
Shipfitter First Class Richard Wood Joyce, United States Naval Reserve, for extraordinary heroism
and devotion to duty as member of a demolition party attached to the Fleet Tug U.S.S.
CHEROKEE (AT-66), during the assault on and occupation of French Morocco from 8 to 11
November 1942. Assigned the extremely dangerous task of cutting through an enemy obstruction in
order that the U.S.S. DALLAS could navigate up the Sebou River in order to land raiders near a
strategic airport, Shipfitter First Class Joyce and his shipmates, on the night of 9 November,
proceeded with grim determination toward their objective. Despite the treacherous surf, he and his
comrades skillfully and courageously accomplished their hazardous mission of cutting the cables at
the mouth of the river, as guns from the French fort opened fire. Countering the enemy's attack
until out of range, Shipfitter First Class Joyce and the other members of his party, in spite of the
enormous breakers which battered their boat, brought her back to safety. His conduct throughout
was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

Electrician's Mate Third Class William A. Music, Jr., United States Navy
The President of the United States of America takes pleasure in presenting the Navy Cross to
Electrician's Mate Third Class William A. Music, Jr., United States Navy, for extraordinary heroism
and devotion to duty as member of a demolition party attached to the Fleet Tug U.S.S.
CHEROKEE (AT-66), during the assault on and occupation of French Morocco from 8 to 11
November 1942. Assigned the extremely dangerous task of cutting through an enemy obstruction in
order that the U.S.S. DALLAS could navigate up the Sebou River in order to land raiders near a
strategic airport, Electrician's Mate Third Class Music and his shipmates, on the night of 9
November, proceeded with grim determination toward their objective. Despite the treacherous surf,
he and his comrades skillfully and courageously accomplished their hazardous mission of cutting the
cables at the mouth of the river, as guns from the French fort opened fire. Countering the enemy's
attack until out of range, Electrician's Mate Third Class Music and the other members of his party,
in spite of the enormous breakers which battered their boat, brought her back to safety. His conduct
throughout was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

Boatswain's Mate Second Class Edwin Sperry, United States Naval Reserve
The President of the United States of America takes pleasure in presenting the Navy Cross to
Boatswain's Mate Second Class Edwin Sperry, United States Naval Reserve, for extraordinary
heroism and devotion to duty as member of a demolition party attached to the Fleet Tug U.S.S.

CHEROKEE (AT-66), during the assault on and occupation of French Morocco from 8 to 11

November 1942. Assigned the extremely dangerous task of cutting through an enemy obstruction in
order that the U.S.S. DALLAS could navigate up the Sebou River in order to land raiders near a
strategic airport, Boatswain's Mate Second Class Sperry and his shipmates, on the night of 9

November, proceeded with grim determination toward their objective. Despite the treacherous surf,
he and his comrades skillfully and courageously accomplished their hazardous mission of cutting the
cables at the mouth of the river, as guns from the French fort opened fire. Countering the enemy's
attack until out of range, Boatswain's Mate Second Class Sperry and the other members of his party,
in spite of the enormous breakers which battered their boat, brought her back to safety. His conduct
throughout was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

Chief Boatswain's Mate Arthur Wagner, United States Naval Reserve

The President of the United States of America takes pleasure in presenting the Navy Cross to Chief Boatswain's Mate Arthur Wagner, United States Naval Reserve, for extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty as member of a demolition party attached to the Fleet Tug U.S.S. CHEROKEE (AT-66), during the assault on and occupation of French Morocco from 8 to 11 November 1942. Assigned the extremely dangerous task of cutting through an enemy obstruction in order that the U.S.S. DALLAS could navigate up the Sebou River in order to land raiders near a strategic airport, Chief Boatswain's Mate Wagner and his shipmates, on the night of 9 November, proceeded with grim determination toward their objective. Despite the treacherous surf, he and his comrades skillfully and courageously accomplished their hazardous mission of cutting the cables at the mouth of the river, as guns from the French fort opened fire. Countering the enemy's attack until out of range, Chief Boatswain's Mate Wagner and the other members of his party, in spite of the enormous breakers which battered their boat, brought her back to safety. His conduct throughout was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

Seaman First Class Edward Leo Wisniewski, United States Naval Reserve

The President of the United States of America takes pleasure in presenting the Navy Cross to Seaman First Class Edward Leo Wisniewski, United States Naval Reserve, for extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty as member of a demolition party attached to the Fleet Tug U.S.S. CHEROKEE (AT-66), during the assault on and occupation of French Morocco from 8 to 11 November 1942. Assigned the extremely dangerous task of cutting through an enemy obstruction in order that the U.S.S. DALLAS could navigate up the Sebou River in order to land raiders near a strategic airport, Seaman First Class Wisniewski and his shipmates, on the night of 9 November proceeded with grim determination toward their objective. Despite the treacherous surf, he and his comrades skillfully and courageously accomplished their hazardous mission of cutting the cables at the mouth of the river, as guns from the French fort opened fire. Countering the enemy's attack until out of range, Seaman First Class Wisniewski and the other members of his party, in spite of the enormous breakers which battered their boat, brought her back to safety. His conduct throughout was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

Machinist's Mate Second Class Czeslaw Zymroz, United States Navy

The President of the United States of America takes pleasure in presenting the Navy Cross to Machinist's Mate Second Class Czeslaw Zymroz, United States Navy, for extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty as member of a demolition party attached to the Fleet Tug U.S.S. CHEROKEE (AT-66), during the assault on and occupation of French Morocco from 8 to 11 November 1942. Assigned the extremely dangerous task of cutting through an enemy obstruction in order that the U.S.S. DALLAS could navigate up the Sebou River in order to land raiders near a strategic airport, Machinist's Mate Second Class Zymroz and his shipmates, on the night of 9 November, proceeded with grim determination toward their objective. Despite the treacherous surf, he and his comrades skillfully and courageously accomplished their hazardous mission of cutting the cables at the mouth of the river, as guns from the French fort opened fire. Countering the enemy's attack until out of range, Machinist's Mate Second Class Zymroz and the other members of his party, in spite of the enormous breakers which battered their boat, brought her back to safety. His conduct throughout was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

SALERNO, ITALY INVASION

USS *Nauset* (AT-89): 9 September 1943 NAVY CROSS MEDAL

Lieutenant Joseph Orleck, United States Navy

The President of the United States of America takes pride in presenting the Navy Cross (Posthumously) to Lieutenant Joseph Orleck, United States Navy, for extraordinary heroism and distinguished service in the line of his profession as Commanding Officer of the Fleet Tug U.S.S. *NAUSET* (AT-89), during the amphibious invasion of Italy on 9 September 1943. During the approach to the assault area in the Gulf of Salerno, the convoy in which the U.S.S. *NAUSET* was proceeding was attacked by enemy aircraft and this ship struck by several aerial bombs which caused extensive damage, numerous casualties, and ignited fires which completely enveloped the boat deck. Lieutenant Orleck coolly and courageously directed the fire-fighting activities, the control of flooding to correct a dangerous list which immediately developed and the transfer of all survivors to the rescue ships. With complete disregard for his own safety, he remained on board the stricken ship to attempt beaching and prevent total loss, but, while engaged in this operation, he lost his life as the ship struck an enemy mine and sank. His persistent and gallant efforts to save his ship were

an inspiring example to all and contributed materially to minimizing the loss of life incurred by the initial attack. The conduct of Lieutenant Orleck throughout this action reflects great credit upon himself, and was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country.

USS *Hopi* (ATF-71): 12 September 1953 NAVY AND MARINE CORPS MEDALS – 2

Shipfitter First Class John T. Ashcraft, United States Navy

The President of the United States of America takes pleasure in presenting the Navy and Marine Corps Medal to Shipfitter First Class John T. Ashcraft (NSN: 6277810), United States Navy, for heroism while serving as a member of the Fire Fighting Party assigned to the U.S.S. *HOPI* during the amphibious invasion of Italy at Salerno on 12 September 1943. When a fire caused by a plane crash broke out on board H.M.S. *LYMINGE*, a partially loaded ammunition ship, Shipfitter First Class Ashcraft courageously assisted in laying hose lines to the burning ship and in taking prompt measures to bring the spreading flames under control. Despite the hazards from the highly sensitive cargo, consisting of gasoline, projectiles, land mines and chlorine gas, he unhesitatingly boarded the imperiled ship and skillfully participated in fire-fighting operations which led to the ultimate extinguishment of the fire, thereby saving this valuable ammunition ship for future operations against the enemy. The extraordinary heroism, prompt and courageous action and outstanding devotion to duty displayed by Shipfitter First Class Ashcraft were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

Fireman First Class Frances W. Bush, United States Naval Reserve

The President of the United States of America takes pleasure in presenting the Navy and Marine Corps Medal to Fireman First Class Frances W. Bush (NSN: 5530827), United States Naval Reserve, for heroism while serving as a member of the Fire Fighting Party assigned to the U.S.S. *HOPI* during the amphibious invasion of Italy at Salerno on 12 September 1943. When a fire caused by a plane crash broke out on board H.M.S. *LYMINGE*, a partially loaded ammunition ship. Fireman First Class Bush courageously assisted in laying hose lines to the burning ship and in taking prompt measures to bring the raging flames under control. Despite the hazards from the highly sensitive cargo, consisting of gasoline, projectiles, landmines and chlorine gas, he unhesitatingly boarded the imperiled ship and skillfully participated in fire fighting operations which led to the ultimate extinguishing of the fire, thereby saving this valuable ammunition ship for further operations against the enemy. The extraordinary heroism, prompt and courageous actions and outstanding devotion to duty displayed by Fireman First Class Bush were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

INVASION OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

USS *Sonoma* (ATO-12): 24 October 1944 NAVY CROSS MEDAL

Coxswain Donnas Hank Boyd, United States Naval Reserve The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Navy Cross (Posthumously) to Donnas Hank Boyd (8454917), Coxswain, U.S. Navy (Reserve), for extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty while serving on board the Fleet Tug U.S.S. SONOMA (ATO-12), in remaining

within a gasoline fire to release two men trapped inside a burning compartment of the SONOMA prior to its loss on 24 October 1944, in Leyte Gulf, Philippine Islands. Though covered with burning gasoline, and with complete disregard for his own safety, Coxswain Donnas Hank Boyd courageously delayed in escape and exerted great presence of mind in remaining amidst the fires engulfing the midships section of the Sonoma to free two radiomen trapped inside the burning radio room, the door of which had been jammed by the several explosions that eventually caused the loss of the ship. Though suffering from extensive burns at the outset, his continued voluntary exposure augmented the seriousness of his injuries to a degree directly attributable to his death. The courage, presence of mind, and devotion to duty displayed by Coxswain Boyd reflect great credit to the Naval Service.

COLD WAR

Kalispell (YTB-784): 5 January 1978 NAVY AND MARINE CORPS MEDAL

Boatswain's Mate Third Class Donnie Joe Bramlett, United States Navy
The President of the United States of America takes pleasure in presenting the Navy and Marine
Corps Medal to Boatswain's Mate Third Class Donnie Joe Bramlett, United States Navy, for heroism
while serving at U.S. Naval Station, Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines on board *KALISPELL*(YTB-784) on 5 January 1978. Upon hearing the order to cut the stern tow line on YTB-784 after
YTM-521 had become fouled on YTB-784's tow line and both yard tugs were in danger of being
carried into the side of U.S.S. *KITTY HAWK* (CV-63) and capsizing, Petty Officer Bramlett, with
complete disregard for his personal safety and fully aware of the dangers involved, proceeded to the
fantail where he ordered all the men on the craft to take cover inside. He then took a fire ax and cut
the tow line which was then under heavy strain. His quick thinking prevented the potential capsizing
of the tug and possible injury of other members of the crew. Petty Officer Bramlett's courageous
and prompt actions in the face of great personal risk reflected great credit upon himself and were in
keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.