



COMMANDER
FIFTH FLEET

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the AIR MEDAL (First Strike/Flight Award) to

LIEUTENANT LENA C. BUETTNER
UNITED STATES NAVY

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

For meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight as an Airborne Tactical Officer of an SH-60B Aircraft assigned to Helicopter Anti Submarine Light Squadron FOUR EIGHT detachment FIVE onboard USS LEYTE GULF (CG 55) deployed with Commander, United States FIFTH Fleet from March to July 2004 in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM. In the successful completion of 50 combat support missions in the Gulf of Oman and Arabian Gulf, Lieutenant Buettner contributed materially to the success of national objectives in the War on Terrorism. During one of history's most successful military campaigns, her mission focus, dedication and flying abilities helped to ensure victory in the skies and on the ground. In the immediate aftermath of deadly attacks in the Northern Arabian Gulf, she expertly patrolled the areas around the Al Basra and Khawr Al Amaya Oil Terminals, safeguarding these assets for Iraq's future economic prosperity. Additionally, she expertly conducted coastal and maritime surveillance in the Gulf of Oman in support of Operations SEA PYTHON and SEA DRAGON. By her superb airmanship, perseverance and loyal devotion to duty in the face of hazardous flying conditions, Lieutenant Buettner reflected great credit upon herself and upheld the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

The Numeral "1" to represent one Flight award is authorized.

For the President,

D. C. NICHOLS

Vice Admiral, United States Navy