



COMMANDER  
FIFTH FLEET

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the **Air Medal** (with Bronze Star for the First Award) to

LIEUTENANT JUNIOR GRADE WILLIAM J. WALSH  
UNITED STATES NAVAL RESERVE

for service as set forth in the following

**CITATION:**

For meritorious achievement in aerial flight as the co-pilot of an H-46D Aircraft while attached to Helicopter Combat Support Squadron FIVE Detachment THREE onboard USNS CONCORD (T AFS 5) deployed with Commander, U.S. FIFTH Fleet on 17 February 2002 in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. Lieutenant Junior Grade Walsh's helicopter experienced an engine failure while performing a post maintenance functional hover check flight at sea. As he approached a hover altitude of 50 feet, the aircraft performance started to deteriorate. He then notified the crew of the power loss and immediately began a descending turn to the water and into the wind to control rapidly decaying rotor speed. At ten feet above the water, he relinquished flight controls to the Aircraft Commander, started the auxiliary power unit and activated the fuel jettison system to enhance single engine flight capability. Single engine power was insufficient to maintain altitude and the aircraft impacted water losing watertight integrity. His quick action of the emergency procedures and restart checklist resulted in the successful re-light of the failed engine, lift off from the water and a safe recovery on deck USNS Concord (T AFS 5). By his skillful airmanship, steadfast aggressiveness and exemplary devotion to duty in the face of hazardous flying conditions, Lieutenant Junior Grade Walsh reflected great credit upon himself and upheld the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

For the President,

T. J. KEATING  
Vice Admiral, United States Navy



# THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT  
THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
HAS AWARDED THE

**AIR MEDAL**  
(BRONZE STAR FOR THE FIRST AWARD)  
TO

LIEUTENANT JUNIOR GRADE  
WILLIAM J. WALSH, UNITED STATES NAVAL RESERVE  
FOR

MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT ON 17 FEBRUARY 2002

GIVEN THIS 15TH DAY OF AUGUST 2002



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. J. Keating".

FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
**T. J. KEATING**  
Vice Admiral, United States Navy  
Commander, United States FIFTH Fleet



UU  
U UNCLASSIFIED U  
UU

RATUZYUW RUWFADA1626 1222025-UUUU--RHPCFYC.  
ZNR UUUUU ZUI RHHMMCA1454 1222037  
R 301639Z APR 02 ZYB PSN 310268T20  
FM COMHELTACWINGPAC SAN DIEGO CA//N45//  
TO RHMFIUU/CNO WASHINGTON DC//N789E//  
RUENAAA/CNO WASHINGTON DC//N789E//  
RHMFIUU/CMC WASHINGTON DC//A/SD//  
RUEACMC/CMC WASHINGTON DC//A/SD//  
RUWFEAA/COMNAVAIRPAC SAN DIEGO CA//N45/N452//  
RUCOPAW/COMNAVSAFECEN NORFOLK VA//00/10/11/FILE//  
RHMFIUU/COMNAVAIRSYSCOM PATUXENT RIVER MD//PMA-226//  
RULSFAN/COMNAVAIRSYSCOM PATUXENT RIVER MD//PMA-226//  
RUNCAL/HELSPRON FIVE  
ALL SEAKNIGHT HELICOPTER ACTIVITIES  
BT  
UNCLAS FOUO //N03750//  
THIS IS PART OF A GENERAL USE NAVAL AVIATION HAZARD REPORT, CHTWP  
ENDORSEMENT OF HC-5, 07-02, 17 FEB 02, CH-46, 154823, REPORT SYMBOL  
OPNAV 3750-19.  
MSGID/GENADMIN/CHTWP//  
SUBJ/AVIATION HAZREP//  
REF/A/DOC/OPNAVINST 3750.6R/01MAR2001//  
PAGE 02 RUWFADA1626 UNCLAS FOUO  
REF/B/MSG/HC-5/261645ZAPR2002//  
NARR/REF A IS THE NAVAL AVIATION SAFETY PROGRAM. REF B IS HC-5  
HAZREP 07-02.//  
POC/DOLAN, L. H./LCDR/N45/LOC:SAN DIEGO, CA/TEL:(619)545-5333  
/TEL:DSN 735-5333//  
RMKS/1. THIS ENDORSEMENT CONCERNS A SEVERE HAZARD TO NAVAL  
AVIATION. RAC 1. COMNAVAIRPAC ENDORSEMENT REQUESTED IAW REF A.  
SUMMARY: AIRCRAFT EXPERIENCED A PARTIAL POWER LOSS OF THE NO. 1  
ENGINE DURING AN FCF HOVER CHECK AT SEA.  
2. IAW REF A, THE HAZARD REPORT, REF B HAS BEEN REVIEWED. CONCUR IN  
THE CONCLUSIONS AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS.  
3. COMMODORE'S COMMENTS: ALTHOUGH IT IS NOT MY PRACTICE TO USE THE  
HAZREP AS A VENUE OF RECOGNITION, THE OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE OF THE  
CREW'S USE OF RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN THE CASE HAVE FORCED ME TO MAKE  
AN EXCEPTION. YOUR SOUND JUDGMENT AND SKILLFUL AIRMANSHIP SAVED A  
VALUABLE AIRCRAFT, AND IS A VALUABLE EXAMPLE FOR ALL AIRCREWS TO  
USE. GREAT JOB!//  
BT  
#1626  
NNNN

\*\*\*Office Codes that have received this message: \*\*\*

310268/124 1 of 2 301639Z APR 02  
Date In: 05/03/02 Time In: 18:01:40

UU  
U UNCLASSIFIED U  
UU