THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY WASHINGTON

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION to the

U.S.S. HORNET

and her attached Air Groups participating in the following operations:

March 29 to May 1, 1944, Palau, Hollandia, Truk; June 11 to August 5, 1944, Marianas, Bonins, Yap; September 6 to 24, 1944, Philippines, Palau: AG-2 (VF-2, VB-2, VT-2, Part of VFN-76).

October 10 to November 22, 1944, Ryukyus, Formosa, Philippines, Luzon; December 14 to 16, 1944, Luzon; January 3 to 22, 1945, Philippines, Formosa, China Sea, Ryukyus: AG-11 (VF-11, VB-11, VT-11).

February 16 to June 10, 1945, Japan, Bonins, Ryukyus: AG-17 (VF-17, VBF-17, VB-17, VT-17).

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

"For extraordinary heroism in action against enemy Tapanese forces in the air, ashore and afloat in the Pacific War Area from March 29, 1944, to June 10, 1945. Operating continuously in the most forward areas, the U.S.S. HORNET and her air groups struck crushing blows toward annihilating Japanese fighting power; they provided air cover for our amphibious forces; they fiercely countered the enemy's aerial attacks and destroyed his planes; and they inflicted terrific losses on the Japanese in Fleet and merchant marine units sunk or damaged. Daring and dependable in combat, the HORNET with her gallant officers and men rendered loval service in achieving the ultimate defeat of the Japanese Empire."

For the President,

Secretary of the Navy