Commander
United States Naval Forces
Vietnam

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting
the Bronze Star Medal to

Larry Raymond Thurlow
Lieutenant (Junior Grade)
United States Naval Reserve

for service as set forth in the following:

CITATION

"For heroic achievement while serving with Coastal Division ELEVEN
engaged in armed conflict against Viet Cong communist aggressors in
An Hueen Province, Republic of Vietnam on 11 March 1969. Lieutenant
(junior grade) THURLOW was serving as Officer in Charge of Island
Patrol Craft 51, one of five boats conducting a SEA LIONS operation
in the Bay Nap river. While exiting the river, a mine detonated
under another Island Patrol Craft. At the same time, all units
began receiving enemy small arms and automatic weapons fire from the
river banks. Lieutenant (junior grade) THURLOW immediately directed
the crewman of his boat to assist the damaged Island Patrol Craft.
Despite enemy bullets flying about him, he leaped aboard the damaged
boat and began rendering first aid and assessing damage to the boat.
While ascending to the forward gunner, he was knocked overboard. He
managed to remain afloat until pulled from the water. He quickly
radiated for medical evacuation of the wounded and, while still under
fire, with complete disregard for his personal safety, returned aboard
the damaged Island Patrol Craft. Lieutenant (junior grade) THURLOW
remained aboard the stricken boat until it had safely cleared the area.
His actions and courage in the face of enemy fire were instrumental
in the medical evacuation of the wounded and salvaging the damaged
Island Patrol Craft and were in keeping with the highest traditions of
the United States Naval Service."

Lieutenant (junior grade) THURLOW is authorized to wear the Combat "V".

For the President

Vice Admiral, U. S. Navy
Commander U. S. Naval Forces, Vietnam

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