

UNITED STATES ATLANTIC FLEET
AIR FORCE
CARRIER DIVISION TWO
Care of Fleet Post Office, New York, N. Y.

FB2/HDR:wdn
P15
Ser 538

OCT 6 1953

From: ~~Commander Carrier Task Force (Commander Carrier Division TWO)~~
To: Lieutenant John Edward PRITCHETT, USNR, 482281/1315
Via: (1) Commander Cruiser Division SIX
(2) Commanding Officer, U.S.S. MACON (CA-132)

Subj: Rescue of pilot

1. On 22 September 1953, during NATO Exercise MARINER, a jet fighter plane crashed, flamed and went over the side of the U. S. S. BENNINGTON. The rescue situation was made most difficult and hazardous because of the intense fire in the wreckage in the water. Further, because of the fire, prompt action was essential to success. Despite the unfavorable circumstances which prevailed you, as pilot of the rescue helicopter, performed a completely successful rescue.

2. Your performance of duty in this instance has been noted with great pleasure, and with admiration for your prompt reaction and high professional competence.


HUGH H. GOODWIN

FB4-6
P15/05/gh
8 Oct 1953

FIRST ENDORSEMENT on ComCarTaskForce (CCD-2) ser. 538 of 6 Oct 1953

From: Commander Cruiser Division SIX
To: Lieutenant John Edward PRITCHETT, USNR, 482281/1315
Via: Commanding Officer, U.S.S. MACON (CA-132)

1. Forwarded with pleasure.



R. F. STOUT