

AWARD RECOMMENDATION
 NAVPERS 1650/4 (3-67) 57N-0105-902-8150

DATE: 23 March 1969

INSTRUCTIONS

(Originating command fill in all information available and forward to immediate superior.)

Via addressee utilize file in endorsement. Attach additional sheets as necessary to amplify recommendation.

1. FROM: Commander Coastal Division ELEVEN FPO San Francisco, California 96629		2. TO: Commander Coastal Squadron ONE FPO San Francisco, California 96697	
3. FILE/SERV. NO. 704377	4. NAME (Last, first, initial) THURLOW, Larry Raymond	5. RANK/RATE LTJG	6. OFF. DESIGNATOR 1105
7. BR. OF SERV. USNR	8. SOCIAL SECURITY NO. [REDACTED]	9. EXP. OF EM. OR OBL. SERV. Indefinite	10. ESTIMATED DEPARTMENT DATE April 1969
11. STATUS <input type="checkbox"/> REGULAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RESERVE		12. PERMANENT ADDRESS [REDACTED]	
13. NAME OF PRESENT UNIT Coastal Division ELEVEN		14. PLACE OF BIRTH [REDACTED]	
15. NAME OF UNIT AT TIME OF ACTION/SERVICE Coastal Division ELEVEN		16. DUTY ASSIGNMENT Officer-in-Charge, PCF	
17. NAME OF AWARD RECOMMENDED Bronze Star Medal		18. DUTY ASSIGNMENT Officer-in-Charge, PCF	
19. COMBAT 'V' RECOMMENDED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		20. AREA WHERE ACTION TOOK PLACE An Xuyen Province, RVN	
21. PREVIOUS DECORATIONS RECEIVED AND DATES OF ACTION (Dut Unit Awards, campaign and service medals) NONE		22. DATE OR DATES OF ACTION/SERVICE 13 March 1969	
23. DECORATIONS RECOMMENDED BUT NOT YET ACTED ON (INCLUDE DATES OF ACTION/SERVICE COVERED) NONE			
24. OTHERS BEING RECOMMENDED FOR SAME ACTION/SERVICE (Name, rank, service number, branch of service and award recommended) J. F. KERRY, LTJG, 713525/1105, USNR Bronze Star Medal R. E. LAMBERT, RD1, 484 19 67, USN Bronze Star Medal			
25. EYEWITNESSES (Name, rank, service number, branch of service - attach statements if required) R. E. LAMBERT, RD1, 484 19 67, USN			
26. SUMMARY OF ACTION (Include dates, assignment, location, weather, enemy and friendly strength and disposition, casualties, action justifying the award - When Medal of Honor is recommended append free hand sketch of scene.) On 13 March 1969, LTJG THURLOW was serving as Officer-in-Charge of PCF-51, conducting a five boat Sea Lords operation in the Bay Hap River and Dong Cung canal together with ground units. After sweeping the area for five hours, the boats extracted the ground troops and began exiting the river. Shortly after starting their exit, a mine detonated under one of the boats (PCF-3), lifting it two feet above the water and wounding everyone onboard. At the same time, all the boats came under small arms and automatic weapons fire from the river banks. LTJG THURLOW immediately directed PCF-51 to assist PCF-3, where he leaped aboard the stricken boat. Finding the entire crew either wounded or in shock, LTJG THURLOW began administering first aid, as PCF-51 backed off and provided cover fire. While administering first aid to the forward gunner, LTJG THURLOW was knocked overboard when PCF-3 ran aground out of control. Fighting a three to four knot current, LTJG THURLOW managed to stay afloat with PCF-51 rushing to his aid to pull him aboard. Once aboard, although exhausted and out of breath, LTJG THURLOW, after radiocalling for MEDEVAC and reporting the seriousness of PCF-3's casualties, returned aboard PCF-31.			

NAVYERS 1680/6 (8-67) (BACK)

28. SUMMARY OF ACTION (Cont'd)

and again administered first aid. After making the wounded comfortable, he then began damage control procedures on the boat. With the aid of one of the crewmembers who had recovered enough to assist, LTJG THURLOW was able to control the flooding until other boats came alongside to assist. LTJG THURLOW remained aboard the stricken boat until the units safely cleared the river and arrived at the support ship. All of these actions by LTJG THURLOW took place under constant enemy small arms fire which LTJG THURLOW completely ignored in providing immediate assistance to the boat and crew.

29. I certify that the facts contained herein are known to me.

NAME, RANK, TITLE OF ORIGINATOR

G. M. ELLIOTT, LCDR, COMCOSDIV ELEVEN

SIGNATURE

G. M. Elliott

30. FIRST ENDORSEMENT

From: Commander Coastal Squadron ONE
To: Commander U.S. Naval Forces, Vietnam

Date: 1 April 1969

- Via: (1)
(2)
(3)

1. Forwarded, readdressed.

2. Basic recommendation is concurred in. Recommend modification of recommendation (See attached sheet)

Approval not recommended for the following reason(s):

Copy to:
COMPHIBPAC
COMCSFLOT ONE

C. F. HORNE III

(Signature)

31. FORWARDING ENDORSEMENTS BY VIA ADDRESSEE(S)

VIA	RECOMMENDATION	DATE RECEIVED	DATE FORWARDED	RANK, SIGNATURE AND TITLE
1				
2				
3				

32. BRONZE STAR MEDAL APPROVED

BRONZE STAR MEDAL APPROVED

SIGNATURE

S. EDELMAN

Assistant Chief of Staff for Personnel and Administration

DATE

6/20/69