

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

U.S.S. NAUTILUS (SSN - 571)

for services in connection with operations in the Arctic Ocean as set forth below:

CITATION:

"For outstanding achievement in completing the first voyage in history across the top of the world, by cruising under the Arctic ice cap from the Bering Strait to the Greenland Sea. During the period 22 July 1958 to 5 August 1958, U.S.S. NAUTILUS (SSN-571), the world's first atomic powered ship, added to her list of historic achievements by crossing the Arctic Ocean from the Bering Sea to the Greenland Sea, passing submerged beneath the geographic North Pole. This voyage opens the possibility of a new commercial seaway, a Northwest Passage, between the major oceans of the world. Nuclear powered cargo submarines may, in the future, use this route to the advantage of world trade.

"The skill, professional competency and courage of the officers and crew of NAUTILUS were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States and the pioneering spirit which has always characterized our country."

The Presidential Unit Citation Ribbon with Special Clasp in the form of a Golden "N" is authorized for those who participated in this cruise. Naval personnel subsequently assigned to the NAUTILUS (SSN-571) are authorized to wear the ribbon without the clasp during the period of such duty assignment.

The White House
August 1958