

COMMANDER MIDDLE EAST FORCE

TAKES PLEASURE IN COMMENDING

SEAMAN APPRENTICE

KEVIN MICHAEL COUGHLIN

UNITED STATES NAVY

for service as set forth in the following CITATION:

STURBRIONED PORT

"For exemplary performance of duties in USS LASALLE (AGF 3) from 17 January 1991 to 23 March 1991. You performed duties in a highly professional manner. In a combat action environment and in mined waters, you assisted with the underway transfer of Helicopter Mine Hunting Squadron FOURTEEN assets from USS TRIPOLI (LPH 10) following a mine strike. Under these arduous and dangerous conditions, you were part of the team that performed continuous wet well, crane, and boat operations in support of allied mine countermeasure forces in the northern Persian Gulf. Through your efforts as a Sideport Crane Rigger and Wet Well Linehandler, you directly contributed to opening the way for naval gunfire support missions and expedited the reopening of the Kuwait port of Ash Shuaybah. Your display of diligence, resourcefulness, and perseverance contributed significantly to the accomplishment of both LASALLE's and Middle East Force's mission. Your distinctive performance reflects credit upon yourself, your command, and the United States Naval Service.

the Jayor

RAYNOR A. K. TAYLOR Rear Admiral, United States Navy Commander, Middle East Force