



Chief of Naval Operations

The Secretary of the Navy takes pleasure in presenting the
MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION to

THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

For meritorious service from 1 June 2007 to 30 August 2008. The personnel of the United States Naval Academy (USNA) consistently demonstrated unparalleled success in the execution of their mission. Instituting sweeping changes throughout the institution to promote the development of the Brigade, each member of the USNA team focused on professionalism, leadership development and alignment with the Fleet to better prepare midshipmen for service. As a result, the USNA had the lowest Plebe Summer attrition on record and the highest graduation rate of any commissioning program or service academy. In each center of excellence, they surpassed previous standards and continued to reach for higher levels of accomplishment. Academically, the United States Naval Academy ranked second among all American universities in the number of notable scholarship winners and instituted programs that significantly increased Language, Regional Expertise and Cultural Awareness to better prepare midshipmen for leadership in the global arena. Excellence in the physical mission area resulted in a record number of league titles, numerous national awards for athletes and coaches and honors as the top university in the nation in the graduation rate of its student athletes. Through the work of the Midshipmen Action Group, midshipmen demonstrated that they are compassionate young people ready to selflessly serve others on both a local and national level. The USNA's diversity outreach program touched new areas and established ties with community leaders throughout the country. While executing the mission requirements to prepare leaders for service, the USNA demonstrated that it is an institution of national prominence, hosting the Annapolis Middle East Peace Conference, a U.S. - China Economic Summit and numerous other national and international visits and conferences. By their truly distinctive accomplishments, unrelenting perseverance, and unfailing devotion to duty, the officers and enlisted personnel of the United States Naval Academy reflected credit upon themselves and upheld the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

For the Secretary,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Roughead', written over a horizontal line.

G. ROUGHEAD
Admiral, United States Navy
Chief of Naval Operations