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HR70-14

REF: [redacted]

APPROVED FOR
RELEASE DATE:
13-Mar-2009

HQS WISHES TO SPECIFICALLY COMMEND PILOTS L. M. PRULHIERE AND E.G. STEALE, FLIGHT MECHANIC R. A. RAMOS AND AIR AMERICA CAPTAIN LES BAYS FOR THEIR COURAGEOUS ACTION RESULTING IN THE SUCCESSFUL RESCUE OF THE DOWNED CREW AND PASSENGER OF AN AIR AMERICA HELICOPTER ON 17 JANUARY. DESPITE THE FACT THAT THE CREW OF H-59 AND THE PORTER 58-F RECEIVED HEAVY GROUND FIRE AND WITHOUT REGARD TO THEIR PERSONAL SAFETY, THEY DISPLAYED A DEDICATION TO DUTY AND A COOLNESS UNDER FIRE WHICH IS MOST CERTAINLY IN THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF ANY SERVICE OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT. PLEASE CONVEY HQS ADMIRATION AND DEEP GRATITUDE FOR THEIR HEROIC ACTIONS.

END OF MESSAGE

RC/SOD
DDS [redacted] (legon)
(JL/COO)

[redacted]

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