



Commander in Chief
United States Naval Forces Europe

The Secretary of the Navy takes pleasure in presenting the NAVY
AND MARINE CORPS COMMENDATION MEDAL (Gold Star in lieu of the
Second Award) to

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER
RYAN K. ZINKE
UNITED STATES NAVY

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE WHILE SERVING AS THE UNCONVENTIONAL
WARFARE PLANS OFFICER ON THE STAFF OF COMMANDER IN CHIEF, U.S.
NAVAL FORCES, EUROPE, FROM AUGUST 1993 TO JULY 1996. LIEUTENANT
COMMANDER ZINKE PERFORMED HIS DEMANDING DUTIES IN AN EXEMPLARY AND
HIGHLY PROFESSIONAL MANNER. HE SUPERBLY SPEARHEADED THEATER
NAVAL SPECIAL WARFARE SUPPORT INITIATIVES INCLUDING NAVAL SPECIAL
WARFARE BASING OPTIONS, CREATION OF A NAVAL SPECIAL WARFARE
LIAISON OFFICER BILLET WITH BRITISH SPECIAL FORCES AND A NAVAL
SPECIAL WARFARE PERSONNEL AND TECHNOLOGY EXCHANGE AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE GOVERNMENT OF ITALY. IN
ADDITION, HE EXPERTLY AUTHORED A EUROPEAN DIRECTIVE ADDRESSING
THEATER-LEVEL NAVAL SPECIAL WARFARE COMMAND AND CONTROL
RELATIONSHIPS, WHICH WILL SIGNIFICANTLY AID FUTURE WARFIGHTERS IN
EUROPE, DEVELOPED SIX DELIBERATE PLANS AND COMPLETED THE
SUPPORTING CONTINGENCY NONCOMBATANT EVACUATION PLAN [REDACTED]
LIEUTENANT COMMANDER ZINKE'S EXCELLENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS WERE A
DIRECT RESULT OF HIS SUPERB LEADERSHIP, TIRELESS EFFORTS, AND TOTAL
DEVOTION TO DUTY. THEY REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT UPON HIMSELF AND HIS
COMMAND, AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE
UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.

For the Secretary



REAR ADMIRAL, UNITED STATES NAVY
DEPUTY

