

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
WASHINGTON

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the SILVER STAR MEDAL to

CAPTAIN ANDREW R. MACK, UNITED STATES NAVY

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

"For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity as Commanding Officer of the U.S.S. ERIE (PG-50) following the torpedoing of that vessel by an enemy submarine on 12 November 1942. When the explosion ruptured a fuel tank and flames quickly spread to the port side of the ship, Captain Mack, although most of the officers in damage control and fire-fighting were lost or overboard, kept the vessel in motion under auxiliary power, despite the fact that she was well down by the stern and listing heavily to starboard. With her superstructure ablaze and the ammunition in her ready rooms exploding continuously, the ERIE, while her crew fought valiantly above and below deck to save her from destruction, crept slowly between two jutting coral reefs and beached herself about a hundred yards off shore. By his skillful leadership and inspiring devotion to duty, Captain Mack was largely responsible for the salvage of the vessel and maintenance of watertight integrity until she could be floated and towed to port."

For the President,

(signed) Frank Knox
Secretary of the Navy