

The Commander in Chief, United States Pacific Fleet, commended the following for service as set forth below:

Lieutenant Commander Michael James STAPLETON, USNR
Averill Park
New York, N.Y.

"Citation": "For extraordinary achievement as Senior Medical Officer of an assault transport during the amphibious assaults upon Sicily; Makin Island; Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands; and Saipan, in organizing his department to receive and treat wounded troop and Naval casualties. By his superior skill and knowledge he devised a plan to receive casualties from a hostile beach which accounted for the immediate treatment of seriously wounded men. His initiative, perseverance and professional ability have constantly been an inspiration to all serving with him. His conduct and excellent service in the line of his profession during all operations have consistently been above and beyond the call of duty, and worthy of the highest traditions of the Naval Service."

To: Thomas Hastings GRAY, Motor Machinist's Mate Third Class, U.S. Navy
642 East Hilton, St.
Philadelphia, Penn.

"Citation": "For distinguishing himself by meritorious achievement as a member of a landing boat while under fire during operations against the enemy, during the night of 23 June 1944, at Saipan, Marianas Islands. He assisted in the transporting of wounded men from damaged landing craft, and by his cool and excellent performance of duty contributed to the saving of the lives of at least two men and expedited medical care for six others. After the wounded men were board a transport he remained with his boat, which was in a sinking condition, and in the morning returned to his ship. His conduct throughout distinguished him among others performing duties of the same character and was in keeping with the highest traditions of the Naval Service."