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UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
FORWARD AREA, CENTRAL PACIFIC

The Commander Forward Area, Central Pacific, takes pleasure in commending

ROBERT JAMES THURBER, AVIATION MACHINIST'S MATE, THIRD CLASS,
UNITED STATES NAVY

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

"For courageous actions during an enemy air attack on the night of 26 December 1944 while serving at a United States Naval Air Base in the Marianas Islands. Seeing fires start in the plane area as a result of enemy bombs, he proceeded to the scene of the fire and voluntarily entered a Ventura bomber to operate the brakes while another man towed the plane to safety. He was in extreme personal danger due to exploding ammunition and gasoline, but remained calm and oblivious to danger throughout the emergency. His initiative, courage, and devotion to duty gave evidence of his value to the Naval Service."

J. H. HOOVER
Vice Admiral
United States Navy

ENCLOSURE (1-E)