



## THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

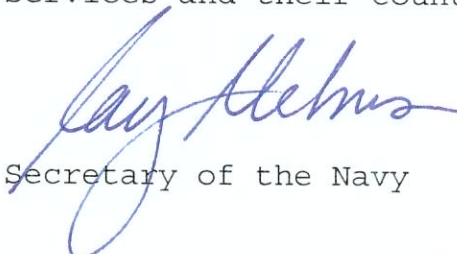
The Secretary of the Navy takes pleasure in presenting the  
MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION to

CHARLES DE GAULLE STRIKE GROUP

for service as set forth in the following

### CITATION:

For meritorious service from 7 December 2015 to 3 March 2016. The personnel of the CHARLES DE GAULLE Strike Group (CDGSG) demonstrated extraordinary performance of duty in action against the enemy in support of Operation INHERENT RESOLVE. The CDGSG was the first non-U.S. naval unit to command Task Force 50. The strike group provided direct support to coalition forces engaged with the enemy, and delivered the right capability at the right time. They demonstrated the potency of interoperable and integrated naval strike power, and a resolute commitment to the coalition effort to defeat the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL). Displaying exceptional professionalism, the CDGSG safely interacted with 11 Iranian Y12 and LSF aircraft, seven Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps Naval Force fast attack craft, and three Iranian unmanned aerial-reconnaissance vehicles. The strike group executed 271 combat sorties, including 259 precision strikes that significantly degraded ISIL operations in Iraq. The CDGSG also provided Sector Air Defense control for 1,142 aircraft, flying 10,618 hours in support of the Combined Defense of the Arabian Gulf. By their truly distinctive accomplishments, unrelenting perseverance, and unfailing devotion to duty, the personnel of CHARLES DE GAULLE Strike Group reflected credit upon themselves and upheld the highest traditions of the Naval Services and their country.

  
Secretary of the Navy