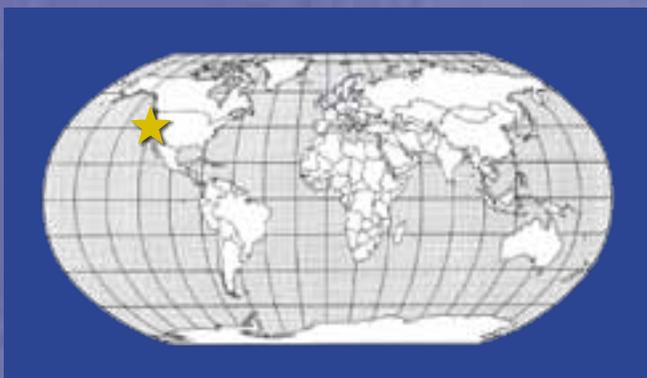


George F. Thometz, Jr.
Lieutenant Commander
Class of 1945



The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting
the Distinguished Flying Cross to
Lieutenant Commander George F. Thometz, Jr.
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

For service as set forth in the following Citation:

For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight during the early morning of 24 December 1955, as pilot of a Coast Guard helicopter engaged in the rescue of men, women and children during the flood disaster at Yuba City, California. In spite of darkness, intermittent rain, and the necessity for operating dangerously close to tall trees, antennas, and other hazardous obstructions in the raging flood waters, Lieutenant Commander Thometz skillfully piloted the helicopter to the assistance of persons who were marooned in positions of extreme peril on roofs, automobiles, in trees, and elsewhere. On one mission he rescued fourteen children and adults from a housetop while hovering close to a dangerous obstruction. By his indomitable courage and determination over a period of twelve consecutive hours, despite his great fatigue, Lieutenant Commander Thometz successfully rescued sixty-six persons and evacuated them to places of safety. His expert airmanship, dauntless valor, sound judgment and unwavering devotion to duty reflect the highest credit upon himself and the United States Coast Guard.

Lieutenant Commander Thometz retired at the rank of Captain.