July 27, 2000

STGC (SW) Irving W. Howland Department of the Navy New Orleans, Louisiana 70159

Dear STGC (SW) Irving W. Howland:

As Governor of the State of Mississippi, I am extremely honored to extend best wishes to you upon the celebration of your retirement and to say thank you for your twenty years of loyal dedicated service to the United States Navy and our Country.

You have exhibited outstanding and courageous service to all who make up these great United States of America. We all offer our gratitude to you for the sacrifices you have endured which have allowed all of us to remain a free society.

Thank you for your twenty wonderful years of service and I wish you the best in your future opportunities.

Very truly yours,

RONNIE MUSGROVE

RM/bwl