



**Francis X. Riley**

Lieutenant  
Class of 1943



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**The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting  
the Bronze Star Medal (with Combat Distinguishing Device “V”) to  
Lieutenant Francis X. Riley  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

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For service as set forth in the following Citation:

For meritorious service as Commanding Officer of an LCL(L), engaged in salvage operations during and subsequent to the invasion of the coast of France, June 6, 1944. Skilled and courageous in the performance of an extremely hazardous assignment, Lieutenant Riley efficiently directed the activities of his ship in rendering all possible aid to wrecked craft and, persevering in his valiant efforts in the face of heavy enemy shellfire and in an extremely heavy sea, enabled numerous of the vital units to rejoin the assault. On sighting two barges loaded with ammunition and drifting toward St. Marcouf Island, June 9, he immediately proceeded to secure them, thereby removing a serious danger to shipping and craft and making available much needed ammunition to the Army. By his professional ability, initiative and unwavering devotion to duty, Lieutenant Riley contributed materially to the success of the assault and upheld the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

Lieutenant Riley retired at the rank of Captain following his final assignment as Commanding Officer of Coast Guard Base New York.