



CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL PRESENTED TO THE CREW OF USS *INDIANAPOLIS* CA-35 JULY 30, 2020

Since the American Revolution, Congress has commissioned gold medals as the highest expression of national appreciation for distinguished achievements and contributions. The medal to honor the crew of USS *Indianapolis* CA-35 is in recognition of their perseverance, bravery, and service to the United States. The single gold medal, struck by the United States Mint, will be permanently displayed at the Indiana War Memorial, Indianapolis, Indiana.

The obverse design depicts USS *Indianapolis* CA-35 with her ten battle stars interspersed among the border of rivets. Featured on the bow is Indy's hull number, 35. Inscriptions are "USS *Indianapolis* CA-35" and her dates of service, "1932-1945."

The reverse design depicts members of the crew clinging to a life raft and offering support to each other during their ordeal. The realization that rescue is on the way is indicated by the circling of Lt. Wilbur Gwinn's PV-1 Ventura plane, and Lt. Adrian Mark's PBY-5A Catalina, along with the searchlight from USS *Cecil J. Doyle* (DE-368), renewing their hope and their will to survive. Survivors reported seeing the PV-1 Ventura tipping its wings; and many recall the searchlight from *Doyle* as a sign from above that help was on the way. Sadly, it was too late for so many of the crew. Inscriptions are "1,195 SAILED, 316 SURVIVED" and "ACT OF CONGRESS 2018."