



# Letter of Marque

Updated and adopted from  
Gov of Bermuda 1704 and issued by US Congress Secretary of State circa 1809

To all to whom these presents shall come or may concern, Greeting:

By virtue of the Power and Authority to me given by whatever Authority doth make so reckless an act to do so, and reposing especially trust and confidence in the loyalty courage and conduct of any Pilot of Potomac, herewith, therefore, with forbearance, and forever after, amen,

Gentlemen:

In general accordance to the Constitution of the United States, Article I, Section 8, Potomac Airfield doth hereby grant any Pilot of Potomac a Letter of Marque and Reprisal, against any and all vessels so bound, to capture and plunder such aircraft not of Potomac; to be sold at auction by the Authority of Potomac, the spoils thereof to be shared in such accordance as Potomac doth deem lawful.

Be it therefore known, that in pursuance of an Act of Congress, Article I, Section 8, I have commissioned and by these presents do commission any Pilot of Potomac, hereby authorizing same and others crew thereof to subdue, seize and take any armed or unarmed aircraft or vessel, public or private, as such may be able, and such captured aircraft vessel with her apparel, guns and appurtenances, and the goods or effects which shall be found on board the same, together with all persons and others shall be found acting on board, to bring to Potomac, and to retake any vessels, goods or effects of the people of Potomac, which may have been captured, in order that proceedings may be had concerning such capture, or recapture, in due form of law, and as right and justice shall appertain.

This letter doth permit the Pilot to pass beyond the borders of Potomac, authorizes seizure of all vessels not of Potomac, for insult to Potomac, up to and including not laughing at all my jokes, without limit.

This commission to continue in force during the pleasure of Potomac

Given under my hand and the seal,

David Wartofsky  
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